Style pg 26

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Celebrity Buzz

Love kisses and tells

pg 30

North Van MLA charged with drunk driving

COURT A North Vancouver Liberal MLA has been charged with drinking and driving.

A May 12 court date has been set for Jane Ann Thornthwaite, who was pulled over at a roadside check in February, after a special prosecutor approved the charges yesterday.

B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell has said he has no plans to ask Thornthwaite to resign.

METRO VANCOUVER

Local pg 3

Homeless Run for Change

Urban Foodie pg 29

Red Card ups its game

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Bif

Better now

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Juno Award-winning musician and breast cancer survivor Bif Naked in Yaletown yesterday. Bif is set to speak at the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's 18th annual Awareness Day Luncheon in Vancouver on May 6. Story, page 4.

Lesbian teacher, mom fired

Private school lets instructor go

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

A music teacher says she was fired from a private Catholic high school in Vancouver for being a lesbian and a new mom.

Lisa Reimer was told on Monday that she was being let go early from her one-year contract position at Little Flower Academy, which receives public funding.

Lisa Reimer

"I feel like I've been fired with a payout ... to keep me quiet," she said yesterday. "All of the families have been told I am on a personal leave, which I am not."

The school knew she was a lesbian and that her partner was expecting a baby, Reimer said.

"I was completely shocked ... because of their reaction when I told them in December we were having a family. They seemed so supportive I thought they would go to bat for me."

The principal and vice-principal claimed they were supportive, Reimer said, but they allegedly fired Reimer because some parents complained that a lesbian teacher would lead their girls to "follow (her) lead."

Ken Coolen of the Pride Education Network said he wonders why other teachers in the board who have children out of wedlock have not been fired.

"It is my understanding (in the Catholic religion) the sin is not to be gay ... the sin is to do something about it," said Coolen.

Glen Hansman, a vice-president with the Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association, said this is a clear example of why private schools should not receive public funding.

"This kind of discrimination and homophobia could never happen in a public school," he said in a release.

James Chamberlain of the B.C. Teachers' Federation added that if private and independent schools want to continue accepting public money, they should operate under the same standards that public schools do.

"They cannot be discriminating against people like Lisa on the basis of family status or sexual orientation," he said.

The class Reimer was teaching has been cancelled for the rest of the year.

B.C. Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid told The Canadian Press that the allegations are concerning and she's asked her staff to investigate.

The school has not commented on the allegations.

VAG eyes LiveCity Downtown site for new gallery

DOWNTOWN A group that is hoping to relocate the Vancouver Art Gallery to a purpose-built "iconic" building urged the city's business community yesterday to pressure city hall into donating a multimillion-dollar downtown site for free.

The VAG is proposing to build a $300-million to $350-million art gallery at the city-owned former bus depot adjacent Queen Elizabeth Theatre. They have raised $90 million and want the city to donate the site.

"It's the people's land," said David Aisenstat, VAG board chair. "And I can't really think of a better use for that land than a place that for a generation will be a gathering place for our community."

He said he didn't know the value of the 1.2-hectare site — the LiveCity Downtown site during the Olympics — but estimated that it was worth tens of millions of dollars.

Vancouver Coun. Heather Deal said the city has had conversations with the VAG, but had yet to see a proposal.

She said other parties were also interested in the site, including one that wants to build office towers.

"They're asking people to let us know their support for that site, which is fantastic," Deal said. "But the city, as a responsible landowner, has to see a business case and a proposal for the site."

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Hidden away

- The gallery, Aisenstat said, is "bursting at the seams" and is only able to display three per cent of the city's 10,000-piece permanent collection.

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

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SCANLIFE

Local

Simon and Garfunkel show delayed

Paul Simon, right, and Art Garfunkel have postponed tonight's show at GM Place because Garfunkel has strained his vocal cords. The show has been rescheduled for July 3.

METRO VANCOUVER

Following news stories on Twitter...

CanucksTweets

Metro asked: What do you think of the Vancouver Canucks playing the Chicago Blackhawks again in the second round of the playoffs?

1 @sjaf12: Chicago will be just way intense coz of our pretty craazy history with em. im psychhedd =)

2 AzureMoak: The Canucks/Hawks series is going to be brutal, both teams hate each other

3 @bsmithccl: welcome to the second round. Here's hoping for a Canucks-Wings Conference final!

4 @kerrrrrrrr: When I watch eastern conference playoff games I'm all "The Canucks would destroy either of these teams."

5 @doolins: We're ready, bring it on!

Today, Metro wants to know: where's the best place to watch the Canucks during the playoffs? Have your say **@vancouvermetro**

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Fashion columnist Kenya Hunt covers the surprising rise of fish leather

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49:	6, 24, 27, 34, 36 & 42 Bonus 18
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Extra:	25, 47, 57, 97

These results are not official.

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LAURA FORTEY/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Haydn Coote, left, and organizer Benji Chu, centre, take part on the first outing of a newly created homeless running club in Vancouver yesterday.

Homeless joggers on Run for Change

New running club attracts 15 men, plus volunteers

A running group for homeless people went out on its first jog yesterday in downtown Vancouver.

In all, five volunteers and 15 men living in shelters and single-room occupancy hotels showed up for the jog organized by marathon runner Benji Chu.

"I came out to get healthy and meet people ... to get back into real life," said participant Charles Bafford.

Chu said he came up with the idea for the running club, titled Run for Change, after being exposed to a similar club in Philadelphia.

He said that he is already planning to buy sneakers and gear for people who turn out to be committed runners.

"Running has changed my life ... I want to share this feeling," he said.

As he handed out water bottles to the participants, Chu said he didn't expect so many people to turn up.

Amrit Bhangoo, an actress who came out to volunteer, said reading about Chu's idea inspired her to join.

"I think this is amazing ... This club is letting go of judgment ... Everybody deserves a chance."

The club meets every Wednesday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church at Burrard and Nelson.

LAURA FORTEY/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Bikes, plenty more up for grabs at VPD auction

COQUITLAM About 500 bicycles and some unusual stuff like mascot costumes, bags of gold jewelry and even toothbrushes are going under the hammer at the massive Vancouver Police Recovered Goods auction this weekend.

The bikes, many of them high-end brands, are usually most popular and are being auctioned Saturday.

"They usually go for 10 to 25 per cent of the cost of a new bike," said Rob Kavanagh of Able Auctions.

Bidding on all other items starts Sunday at 10 a.m.

They include cameras, video game consoles, tools and bags of random gold jewelry.

"We do a lot of jewelry," Kavanagh said.

"You can't make a lot of it, so we put it in a big bag and people buy them for the meltdown value."

Kavanagh suggested taking advantage of a preview today and tomorrow, noon to 6 p.m.

"Inspect the items, go home, do research and write the values down," he said. "That way you don't get too excited and bid too much."

About 1,500 people are expected over the two days.

FERNANDO CARNEIRO/
METRO VANCOUVER

PHOTO COURTESY ABLE AUCTIONS

Mascot costumes recovered by police are being auctioned this weekend in Coquitlam.

Where to go

- The VPD auction is at 1500 Lougheed Hwy. in Coquitlam.

Crackdown on armoured vehicles

LEGISLATION The B.C. government is looking to take away gangsters' sense of security.

Driving an armoured vehicle without a permit and adding hidden compartments to it are illegal after new legislation was introduced yesterday.

Solicitor general Michael de Jong said the act gives police a new tool to fight gangs.

"It's not unusual for gangs to modify their vehicles with armour and secret compartments as a way to protect themselves, conceal firearms, drugs or cash, and evade police," de Jong said.

Deputy Chief Const. Clayton Pecknold said armoured vehicles contribute to gun violence by giving gang members a sense of safety while committing crimes.

People convicted of breaking this law will face a fine of up to $10,000 and six months in jail.

METRO VANCOUVER

Da Vinci exhibit ends this weekend

This is the final weekend for the Vancouver Art Gallery's current exhibit, Leonardo da Vinci: The Mechanics of Man. People have until Sunday before the historic works return to England. The group of anatomical drawings were rendered during the winter of 1510 to 1511. METRO VANCOUVER

Naked drive to beat cancer

Canadian rocker to share her experiences battling disease

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Bif Naked said she didn't have time for breast cancer.

When the Juno Award-winning musician was diagnosed in 2008, she was a newlywed with a sick dog, a family that was falling apart and an album to record.

"Not a lot of people have the luxury to go have a nap because they just had chemo," Bif told Metro Vancouver yesterday.

"Most women still have to take care of four kids and a husband and still get to chemo on the SkyTrain ... Chemo was the first vacation I had in 20 years."

"Not a lot of people have the luxury to go have a nap because they just had chemo. Most women still have to take care of four kids and a husband." Bif Naked

Bif, who eventually underwent a lumpectomy and had her ovaries removed, will be speaking at the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's 18th annual Awareness Day luncheon at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver on May 6.

She said for most people, cancer is a private and personal experience, but she was reluctantly thrust into the spotlight and had to go through treatment in the public eye.

"I felt really self-conscious. In our culture, wellness is an importable attribute, especially as a woman."

Bif found support from other chemo patients, her health-care providers and humour.

At one point, she told her oncologist, when referring to her breasts, "Cut 'em off. They're an A-cup, anyway.'"

She brought popcorn to chemotherapy treatments to share with the other patients, with whom she quickly bonded.

"You get to wind up with a fellowship of women and a support group that's so integral to your well-being."

The experience, she added, has made her stronger: "If I get a recurrence, instead of taking popcorn to chemo I'll probably take a piñata."

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Sandra Severs, deputy executive minister at First United Church, stands in front of a mural in the Downtown Eastside yesterday. Severs is heading a redevelopment of the church.

Games brought in $60M in investment deals: Mayors, businesses

BUSINESS The 2010 Olympics sealed the deal on over $60 million worth of investment in the Vancouver region, area mayors and business leaders said yesterday.

While some of the eight deals announced had been in the works long before the Olympic flame was lit, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson said the Games were the catalyst that turned handshakes into formal contracts.

"The Games were an excellent crucible for bringing business people together from around the world and introducing them to the local business community, building partnerships and relationships," he told a news conference.

"We're seeing significant results in only weeks following the Games."

The deals are being attributed directly to a $1.5-million program run by nine Metro Vancouver municipalities during the Games to attract investment.

Seventy-one companies were invited to the region for four days and introduced to local companies, politicians and other agencies.

"We're seeing significant results in only weeks following the Games." Mayor Gregor Robertson

Business leaders also received tickets to Olympics events, which upset some critics who had suggested the public shouldn't be funding elite access to the Games.

The chief executive officer of a U.S. technology start-up said he attended the gold-medal women's hockey game and the energy there and in the rest of the city was part of why he decided to spend the $1 million to open his office in Vancouver and not San Franscisco.

"It's just so great to be welcomed to a city," said Anuj Singhal of Monetime Inc. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Church redevelopment to include shelter, social housing

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

COMMUNITY A church in the heart of the Downtown Eastside is embarking on a $31-million redevelopment that would see its existing building replaced with a facility offering a range of supportive and social housing.

First United Church, a fixture in the neighbourhood for 125 years (one year prior to the city's incorporation), plans to build a new facility with 60 units of mixed social housing.

Plans call for 40 supportive housing units, a 40-bed shelter, a place of refuge as well as retail spaces, dental and health-care facilities, and places for families.

Rev. Ric Matthews, who made the announcement yesterday in the shadow of a vibrant new mural in the Downtown Eastside, said the facility is not about providing housing, but about building an "inclusive community."

"This is not a community of the marginalized, it's a community with no margins ... We want it to be a reflection of a wider society."

For example, he said, about 10 per cent of the social housing could be rented to those who could afford market housing elsewhere, but chose to live in the neighbourhood.

The United Church of Canada has donated $6 million in land and cash.

News in brief

BODY Police have identified the body found in a car pulled from Skaha Lake in Penticton as a 20-year-old B.C. woman who went missing in 1972. The woman's name has not been released. RCMP say it appears she died after driving off the road and 100 metres into the lake.

HYDRO Dave Cobb, who raised close to a billion dollars in sponsorship for the 2010 Olympics as VANOC's second-in-command, is expected to become the new CEO at B.C. Hydro. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ex-ministers to testify in legislature raid trial

COURTS Two former B.C. government ministers are on a list of nearly four dozen high-profile witnesses slated to testify when the oft-stalled legislature raid trial finally gets underway later this month.

More than five years after RCMP showed up at the legislature with a search warrant, the accused officially entered not-guilty pleas in a B.C. Supreme Court room and a jury was selected yesterday.

44 Collins and Reid are among the 44 witnesses scheduled to take the stand when the six-week trial starts on May 17.

Basi and Bobby Virk are charged with fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes over allegations they accepted money and other benefits in exchange for leaking information about the $1-billion sale of Crown-owned B.C. Rail to Canadian National Railway.

Basi worked for then-finance minister Gary Collins, while Virk worked for then-transportation minister Judith Reid.

The Crown alleges the two sold confidential documents about B.C. Rail to a lobbyist for one of three bidders vying for the Crown corporation at the time, Denver-based OmniTRAX. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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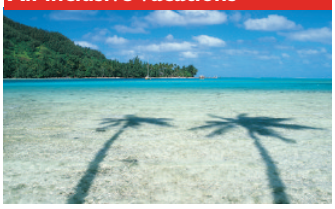

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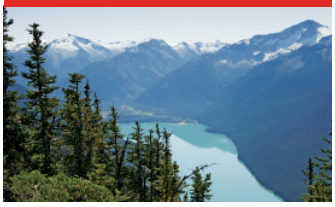

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Black bear visits Port Coquitlam

A black bear was spotted in a Port Coquitlam neighbourhood yesterday, news1130.com reports. Conservation officers were called in to tranquilize the animal and transport it away from the populated area. METRO NEWS SERVICES

News in brief

POLYGAMY Winston Blackmore's lawyer says the polygamist leader won't participate in a British Columbia court case examining Canada's polygamy laws. Last week, the B.C. Supreme Court rejected Blackmore's request for government funding to participate in the case, expected to be heard in the fall.

HEALTH CARE The B.C. Orthopedic Association says surgeons who are staging job action in the Fraser Health Authority region will step up their protest if medical on-call availability times aren't reinstated soon. On April 1, the health authority downgraded the surgeons' response time to two hours from 30 minutes and reduced their on-call pay.

DRIVING BAN A 32-year-old man stopped by Langley Mounties for speeding and running red lights on a motorcycle was arrested after officers learned he was riding despite a 50-year driving suspension. The man, who has multiple dangerous driving convictions, is forbidden to drive or ride a motorcycle until he turns 77.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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THE CANADIAN RED CROSS

Jean Pierre Taschereau, second from right, in Haiti after January's earthquake.

More to do

Relief worker shares experiences

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Three months after a deadly earthquake reduced Haiti's capital to ruins, a senior delegate for the Canadian Red Cross was in Vancouver yesterday to share his experiences.

Jean Pierre Taschereau led the field assessment of critical aid required in affected areas immediately after the earthquake, and returned to spearhead the transitional shelter program ahead of the hurricane season.

Q What were the biggest challenges in the weeks after the quake?

A Everything was a challenge, so the question was how to prioritize. The first was logistical access because we were bringing in so many teams and the Port-au-Prince airport was gridlocked. We were living under tents in a warehouse. After 12 days we were 215 delegates sharing two showers and two latrines.

Q What are some of the successes of the relief effort?

A (Our) vaccination and public-health campaign. There's been no outbreaks or epidemics. This is a silent victory.

Q What still needs to be done?

A We need to develop long-term solutions. The Red Cross (alone) is distributing over 1.5 million litres of drinking water a day, but we're trucking that water (in) because the public water infrastructure has been destroyed, and this is not sustainable.

It took six months for Americans to clear the rubble at Ground Zero and ... there is 25 times the amount of that throughout the city."

Q What do you want Canadians to know about your effort in Haiti?

A Canadians donated more than $175 million to the cause. We are in this for the long run ... so we can not only bring people back, but bring them back (to a) better (country), even after the cameras leave and the attention moves somewhere else.

Fallen workers remembered

MEMORIAL Hundreds of people filled Jack Poole Plaza outside the Vancouver Convention Centre yesterday for the 26th annual Day of Mourning, honouring workers killed on the job.

"It is fitting that we're gathered here today ... Jack Poole died recently just as he was about to finish the great work ... for the Olympic Games," said Dave Anderson, president and CEO of WorkSafeBC.

Last year in B.C., more than 94,000 workers were injured and 121 died as a result of workplace injury, disease or illness.

Anderson said that since 1990, job sites have been made 70 per cent safer.

"But statistics mean nothing to families of a deceased worker," he added.

Lisa Arlint, whose father died on the job in 2005, said she thinks about him all the time, especially at milestones such as her wedding, buying her first home and the birth of her first child.

Her father died five days before Christmas when he was crushed on the job, under a tree.

"I remember shopping on Boxing Day for clothes to bury my dad in. That was the saddest Christmas ever," said Arlint.

LAURA FORTEY/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Quebec climbers rescued on U.S. peak

Mount Rainier National Park rangers in Washington state have rescued two Quebec climbers who called for help after falling near Camp Muir — at about the 3,000-metre level of the 4,392-metre mountain. Both showed signs of hypothermia and were flown to hospital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada

'Sexy Rexy' to wed

Dancer Rex Harrington — nicknamed "Sexy Rexy" — is getting married. The National Ballet of Canada says Harrington and his partner, Robert Hope, right, plan to wed in the summer of 2011. The couple have been together for six years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nazim Gillani testifies before a House of Commons committee on Parliament Hill yesterday.

Busty hookers? That's just so 'outrageous'

Nazim Gillani says he and Rahim Jaffer never cavorted with "busty hookers."

The colourful businessman at the heart of the Guergis-Jaffer scandal told a House of Commons committee yesterday that stories of cocaine-fuelled parties with prostitutes are "outrageous."

He scoffed at a newspaper article that said he and Jaffer dined with "busty hookers." In fact, he said, they dined with his then-girlfriend and two of her friends.

> **"They said they knew how to negotiate the government maze."**
> Nazim Gillani

He dismissed claims by a private eye that he had compromising photos of Jaffer and his wife, Helena Guergis, partying with cocaine and prostitutes.

But Gillani said he and Jaffer did have a business contract.

The alleged contract notes Jaffer's company claimed to have "valuable connections" with the federal government.

"Simply, they said they knew how to negotiate the government maze," Gillani testified.

The committee is looking into whether Jaffer, who is not a registered lobbyist, broke lobbying rules.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper removed Guergis from cabinet and the Tory caucus, and referred the matter to the RCMP.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada, G8 play down squabble over abortion

WOMEN'S HEALTH An abortion disagreement between Canada and the G8 may be cooling down.

International Co-operation Minister Bev Oda says G8 development ministers agree flexibility is needed to allow each member state to determine how it can help achieve Canada's goals of improving the health of mothers and young children in developing countries.

Earlier this week, Canada said it will not support funding for abortions in developing nations.

Oda has played down any rift with other G8 countries, particularly the United States and Britain.

Bev Oda

Both believe access to safe abortion should be part of a family-planning program.

The Obama administration has said it supports a woman's right to safe abortions in developing countries.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said that a maternal-health initiative must include the provision of safe, legal abortions.

Canada's stance on abortion has provoked sharp rebuke from international aid agencies, who said it is irresponsible to deny the service to women in impoverished countries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Galloway taunted by Canada: Lawyer

FREE SPEECH Lawyers for a British MP banned from Canada say the decision to keep him out was "an exercise in taunting" by senior government officials.

Lawyer Barbara Jackman says the Canadian government falsely labelled George Galloway a terrorist because they didn't like his views on the war in Afghanistan.

She says all Galloway did was provide humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza — something Canada itself has been involved in.

If that makes Galloway a terrorist, she says, then Prime Minister Stephen Harper is one also.

Galloway planned to make a four-city speaking tour in March 2009, but officials said he supported terrorism and declared him inadmissible.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Are our publication-ban laws outdated?

WEB When a New Brunswick woman disappeared this year, the RCMP and family made widely publicized pleas for help.

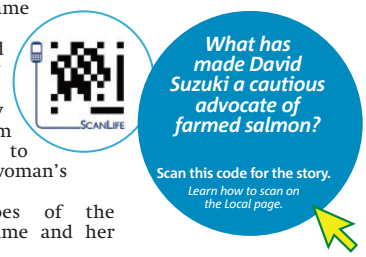
Her name and photograph was blogged, tweeted and forwarded online to the world.

The woman surfaced in March, having escaped after allegedly being kidnapped and assaulted, and the same information that had been freely available was now banned from publication to protect the woman's identity.

But echoes of the woman's name and her disappearance can still be found on the Internet.

And experts say the nearly impossible task of erasing data online demonstrates the need to update publication bans. Vancouver media lawyer Dan Burnett says publication-ban laws need to be revised with the Internet in mind.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Campus Pro-Life Club member Alanna Campbell, who along with seven others, may face expulsion from the University of Calgary, speaks to reporters at the university yesterday.

Abortion row turns nasty

Students may face expulsion

A group of students who oppose abortion is facing possible expulsion from the University of Calgary as part of a long-simmering dispute stemming from its refusal to move a proactive poster display from campus.

The university is refusing to comment, but free speech advocates are panning the treatment of the students.

The group, called Campus Pro-Life Club, points out how quick the school was to herald itself as a defender of free speech when it welcomed firebrand conservative pundit Anne Coulter for an address last month.

"To me it feels like viewpoint discrimination because, really, no other group on campus has ever been asked to modify the way that they're expressing their ideas," said Alanna Campbell, incoming president of the group and one of eight students facing discipline.

"It feels like viewpoint discrimination."
Alanna Campbell

"The only reason I can come up with is they don't like our message."

There's little argument the group's display is provocative.

Called the Genocide Awareness Project, it compares abortion to past historical atrocities, such as the Rwandan genocide and the Holocaust.

It involves graphic photos of fetuses and victims of genocide.

Hearings with the provost were to be held yesterday and Friday.

There are 10 possible sanctions ranging from a written warning to suspension or expulsion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

TORTURE Senior government ministers were to meet opposition party officials today in a bid to find a compromise over release of uncensored Afghan-detainee documents. The meetings follow a historic ruling Tuesday by Commons Speaker Peter Milliken. He ruled MPs have unlimited power to demand release of all uncensored documents related to allegations Afghan authorities tortured prisoners captured by Canadian soldiers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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G20 protesters may be exiled to Toronto park

A report says there's a plan to keep protesters far away from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre when the G20 meets this June. CTV News says a designated protest zone will be set up in Trinity Bellwoods Park — about two kilometres from the Convention Centre. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Plea offer delays Khadr's first hearing

The first war-crimes proceedings under U.S. President Barack Obama against Canada's Omar Khadr were delayed for several hours yesterday as lawyers scrambled to read-up on a new 281-page rule book.

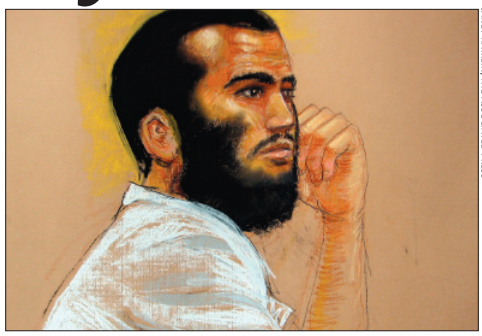
The delay occurred as one of Khadr's Canadian lawyers said the defence team had rejected a plea-bargain offer by prosecutors for a military commission that wants its "pound of flesh."

"We're not interested in any plea bargain that doesn't deal with the opportunity for Omar getting out of that hell-hole of Guantanamo Bay and coming home," Dennis Edney said.

The military-commission manual, which implements new laws enacted by the Obama administration last year, was only made available to counsel at Guantanamo Bay on Tuesday evening.

Denny LeBoeuf, a prominent lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union, called the situation unprecedented, and said it only raised further questions about the fairness of the process. Normally, she said, such rules would be made public months in advance of their effective date to allow them to be studied.

"There is no set of circumstances like this," LeBoeuf said from New Orleans. "This would literally never happen, not in the most benighted backwoods court you can imagine. It would simply never happen."



JANET HAMLIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian defendant Omar Khadr attended a hearing yesterday in the courthouse for the U.S. military war crimes commission at the Camp Justice compound at Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base.

Among other things, the new rules lay out under what circumstances coerced statements can be admitted as evidence.

The manual is important to Khadr's defence team, given that the pre-trial proceedings this week centre on whether self-incriminating statements will be admissible at his trial.

The defence maintains Khadr, who faces a maximum sentence of life in prison, made the statements to interrogators only after extreme abuse.

The prosecution, on the other hand, insists Khadr's claims of torture are baseless and self-serving, and that the various statements should be allowed as evidence.

The Toronto-born Khadr, 23, is charged with murder for allegedly throwing a hand grenade that killed an American special forces soldier in Afghanistan in July 2002. Khadr was 15 at the time.

He was badly wounded and near death when he was captured in the rubble of a compound. He has been held at the American naval base prison in Cuba since the fall of 2002 — the only westerner still held there. His trial is scheduled to begin in late July.

The military commissions, instituted by former U.S. president George W. Bush, have been widely derided by legal and human-rights groups both within the U.S. and abroad.

Obama pledged in January last year to shut down the commissions and the infamous prison, but those promises have so far gone unkept. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadians owe longer life expectancy to health care: Report

HEALTH When it comes to differences between Canada and the U.S., there is one area at least where we can claim bragging rights: Canadians have the edge when it comes to life expectancy and quality of life.

"Canadians live longer and healthier than Americans," said U.S. health economist David Feeny, lead author of a newly published analysis of a joint Canada-U.S. population health survey. "Mortality rates are lower in Canada and the health related quality of life — the quality of those years — is higher in Canada than in the United States."

2.7 The 2002-03 data shows a 19-year-old in Canada can expect to enjoy 2.7 years more of "perfect health" than an American the same age.

While populations north and south of the border share many similarities, including standards of living, Feeny said there are two distinct potential explanations for the gap in life expectancy and quality of life: access to health care and the prevalence of poverty. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Number of jailed women way up

PRISON The number of women locked up as federal offenders has doubled in the last 15 years and an advocacy group says the figure could continue climbing.

This comes as the Conservative government, without giving a specific price tag, concedes that implementing its tough-on-crime legislation will cost billions of dollars.

The director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies says these policy reforms will likely incarcerate more women. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Girl, 10, survives jellyfish sting
A 10-year-old girl in Australia has baffled experts by surviving a run-in with a highly venomous box jellyfish, the sting of which can kill an adult within minutes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

'Just ridiculous'

Britain's bedraggled Prime Minister Gordon Brown waltzed into a political train wreck yesterday after forgetting to turn off his microphone.

He described a loyal Labour voter as a bigot for asking about immigration, blamed advisers for a "disaster" ahead of next week's election, then rushed back to the voter's house to beg her forgiveness.

Grandmother Gillian Duffy, 66, met with Brown at a campaign stop in the northern town of Rochdale and questioned him about the influx of eastern European immigrants who have come to Britain.

Many people are angry that immigrants are taking jobs at a time when Britain's unemployment level is soaring. Brown brushed the question aside, leaving in his car in a hurry and forgetting to turn off his microphone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Gordon Brown

"That was a disaster, they should never have put me with that woman. Whose idea was that? It's just ridiculous," Brown is heard saying. Asked what Duffy had said to upset him, Brown said: "Everything. She's just a sort of bigoted woman."

Brown's gaffe was immediately broadcast and he was then grilled about it on a televised radio show. Slumped over with his head in his hand, Brown said he realized he had made a mistake and regretted the remarks.

"He's an educated person, why has he come out with words like that?" Duffy said. "He's calling an ordinary woman who's just come up and asked questions ... a bigot."

The political consequences of the blunder could be severe, with Brown already third in opinion polls for the general election and desperate to show his supposedly statesmanlike credentials to dispatch less experienced rivals, Conservative leader David Cameron and Nick Clegg of the Liberal Democrats. Ironically, Brown's campaign team overhauled their election strategy this week — betting that more contact between their leader and ordinary people would revive his flagging election hopes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Thai soldiers fire on anti-government protesters during clashes near Bangkok yesterday.

Soldier killed during protest

CLASH Thai troops fired rifles and threw tear gas at a crowd of anti-government protesters riding motorbikes down a busy expressway yesterday, blocking their effort to take the demonstrations that have paralyzed central Bangkok into the suburbs.

The hourslong confrontation killed one soldier — apparently from friendly fire — and wounded 18 other people as it transformed the suburban streets into a battle zone.

Heavily armed troops took cover behind terrified commuters' cars and one driver clasped her hands in prayer as the soldiers wove their way through traffic.

Security officials suggested the possibility of an escalation in the violence. The bloodshed yesterday was the first violent confrontation in nearly a week, and protest leaders accused the government of leading the nation to the brink of civil war.

The "Red Shirts" have turned parts of Bangkok's commercial heart into a protest camp in their campaign to bring down a government they view as illegitimate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

DISCOVERY Swiss authorities are investigating the discovery of dozens of urns filled with human ashes buried in the mud of Lake Zurich. The disposals are drawing attention to assisted suicide, which is legal in Switzerland.

WEATHER A spring snowstorm has dumped up to 60 centimetres of snow on parts of the northeastern U.S.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tokyo's population passes 13 million

The population of Japan's capital — one of the biggest cities in the world — has surpassed 13 million for the first time, up 0.5 per cent from the same month a year earlier. The growth contrasts with the overall demographic trend in Japan, where people have long lifespans and stubbornly low birth rates THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Knife attack puts 15 kids in hospital

Latest violent incident at a Chinese school

A teacher wielding a knife broke into a primary school in southern China and stabbed 15 students and a teacher yesterday, the same day another school attacker was executed for killing eight children last month, police and state media reported.

The suspect taught at another primary school nearby, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

None of the 15 students nor the teacher is in life-threatening condition, said the director of the command centre at the Leizhou Public security Bureau, who gave his name as Qin.

The attacker, identified by a local official as Chen Kangbing, allegedly broke into Leicheng No. 1 Primary School in Leizhou city about 3 p.m. and hacked at the students and teacher, Xinhua said.

He teaches at the Hongguan Primary School in nearby Baisha town, the report said. He is in police custody.

The fourth- and fifth-graders were stabbed in their heads, backs and arms, Xinhua said, citing comments from Li Changwu, Leizhou city's Communist Party secretary.

A nurse at emergency clinic of Leizhou People's Hospital said staff there treated eight of the students for knife wounds to the head.

A man from surgical department of Leizhou Hospital of Chinese Medicine said seven students were treated there. He refused to give his name. Calls to the school rang unanswered.

It is not known where the other students or teacher were treated. There was no immediate word on a motive for the attack.

China has witnessed a series of school attacks in recent years, most blamed on people with personal grudges or suffering from mental illness, leading to calls for improved security.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eerie coincidence

Yesterday's attack came on the same day that Zheng Minsheng, 42, was executed in neighbouring Fujian province for the March 23 murders of eight children outside their elementary school as they waited with their parents for classes to start. During his trial last month, Zheng admitted to killing the children because he had been upset after being jilted by a woman and treated badly by her wealthy family.

China HIV/AIDS travel ban lifted

ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Chinese government has scrapped a 20-year travel ban that barred people with HIV and AIDS from entering the country, just days ahead of the opening of the Shanghai Expo, which hopes to welcome millions of overseas visitors. In this file photo, a woman whose son was infected with HIV wears a face mask bearing the words "Blood products infect us with AIDS" during an event in Beijing on World AIDS Day last December.

India arrests alleged spy from Pakistan

DIPLOMACY India is investigating a serious breach of security after arresting a diplomat accused of spying for Pakistan while posted at the Indian Embassy in Islamabad, India's foreign minister said yesterday.

Madhuri Gupta, 53, a second secretary at the embassy, was recalled to New Delhi and arrested at her home in the Indian capital.

Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna told NDTV news channel that the case was being investigated by the Home Affairs Ministry.

Gupta is accused of passing information to Pakistani intelligence agencies, External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vishnu Prakash said.

Gupta, who had been working in the press and information section of the embassy for three years, had been under surveillance for more than six months.

Investigations were under way and Gupta was co-operating, Prakash said.

He gave no other details and did not take any questions from reporters.

Gupta was arrested Friday, although the arrest was not announced until Tuesday, Press Trust of India news agency said. She will remain in police custody for the next four days, PTI said.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947.

Relations between the two South Asian rivals were further strained after a deadly terror attack on Mumbai, India's financial hub, in 2008 killed 166 people. India blamed the attack on Pakistan-based Islamic terror groups.

The arrest comes ahead of a meeting between India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his Pakistani counterpart, Yusuf Raza Gilani in Bhutan today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

First a lucky loonie, now a lucky goose

LUCK A Canada goose with a hunter's 66-centimetre arrow sticking out of its chest picked the right place to land.

"This is a smart goose," said Bernard Levine, the retired veterinarian in whose Toms River, N.J., backyard the wounded bird showed up in a few weeks ago. "He happened to come into the yard of a veterinarian that could take care of him."

So Levine, 82, fed the goose, helped capture it, performed life-saving surgery and transported it to the state's largest bird rehabilitation facility, the Raptor Trust.

All patched up after a three-week stay at the Raptor Trust, the goose was released last week into a stream in a wooded area on the trust's property, with Levine witnessing the payoff for his kindness.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TEXAS Police are searching for a suburban Dallas man accused of decapitating his wife with a chainsaw. Lewisville police have issued an arrest warrant for 49-year-old Jose Fernando Corona that charges him with the murder of his wife, Maria Corona. The slain 44-year-old mother of six was discovered in the street near her home Monday. A bloody trail ran from her headless body to her house. Police found two chainsaws with blood and tissue matter nearby, one of them still running.

SHARKS Hawaii is attempting to ban the practice of killing sharks for the purpose of making shark-fin soup. The state legislature passed a bill Tuesday banning shark fins from being harvested, sold or owned. Democratic Senator Clayton Hee of Kahuku says killing sharks for their fins is similar to killing elephants for their ivory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Police track down man who found iPhone prototype
A San Mateo County District Attorney spokesman said police have located and spoken to the man who, according to media reports, found an iPhone prototype left behind by an Apple engineer at a San Francisco-area bar last month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope may say sorry for sexual abuses

Pope Benedict XVI may issue a mea culpa for the church's handling of clerical sexual abuse cases when he attends a meeting of the world's clergy in June, the Vatican official in charge of handling abuse cases said.

Cardinal William Levada also said he intended to hold up the U.S. policy dealing with abuse as a model for bishops around the world. Levada, head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, made the comments in an interview broadcast late Tuesday on PBS, his first interview since the scandal erupted.

American way

- The U.S. norms bar credibly accused priests from any public church work while claims against them are under investigation.

"It's a big crisis. I think no one should try to diminish that," Levada said. He acknowledged that the Vatican was caught by surprise, even though it was aware of the scope of the U.S. and Irish crises, and blamed "a certain media bias" for keeping the story alive.

As the scandal has raged, Benedict has come under increasing pressure to admit some form of higher responsibility on the part of the Vatican for fomenting a culture of secrecy that allowed abuse to fester unchecked for decades.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

NORIEGA A lawyer for former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega says he is sick and struggling to settle into a French prison, but is in fighting spirits after spending his first night in Paris's La Sante prison after being extradited from the United States. He was deposed in 1989, then spent 20 years in a Miami prison on drug charges. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aussies move to keep ban on whale hunting

WHALING Australia rejected an International Whaling Commission proposal that would allow limited commercial whaling for the first time in 25 years, dismissing it yesterday as a huge step back for whale conservation efforts.

There has been a ban on commercial whaling since 1986, but Japan, Norway and Iceland still catch whales under various exceptions sanctioned by the IWC, such as scientific research. In Japan, whale meat not used for research is sold as food, which critics including Australia contend is the real reason for the hunt.

Last week, the IWC put forth a proposal that would allow whaling nations to hunt without specifying whether it is for commercial or other purposes, but in lower numbers than they do now. The proposal will be debated at the commission's meeting in Morocco in June.

Yesterday, Environment Minister Peter Garrett said the proposal was inadequate, and instead called for a five-year phase-out of all whaling in the waters off Antarctica, and an immediate ban on scientific whaling permits.

"The proposal before us falls well short of any outcome that Australia could accept," Garrett said in a speech at The Australian National University.

"We believe that should the chair's proposal be implemented without substantive change, it would set whale conservation back by decades."

Each year, Japan travels to the waters off Antarctica to hunt whales under its scientific program. Activists from the U.S.-based Sea Shepherd conservation group pursue the whalers, occasionally leading to violent clashes.

Australia has given Japan until November to end the Antarctic hunts.

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Comment

Mixing libido and state

Relating

It can be awkward when your government sits you down for a sex talk.

Brazil's health minister, Jose Temporao, is urging the citizenry to have more sex, citing evidence that it lowers blood pressure. He's also on record as a supporter of safe sex and eating your veggies.

While I'm certain the average Brazilian is already having as much sex as he or she can without government encouragement, this seems a reasonably healthy state intervention in the national sex life.

It contrasts sharply with the anti-fun stance of Iranian officialdom, with cleric Hojatoleslam Kazem Sadighi commingling the geological and the theological to causally link women wearing revealing clothing and earthquakes.

The imam's goofy theory inspired Indiana blogger Jen McCreight to get on Facebook and organize this past Monday's Boobquake, in which she encouraged women worldwide to show a bit of cleavage and see if they could get a seismic rise out of the Earth.

"It can swing the other way, too, as some citizens find their government entirely too kinky. Witness the Ontario government's new sex education curriculum ..."

I watched with purely professional interest, hoping for a perhaps defiant flash mob outside the Iranian Embassy here in Ottawa, but no such luck.

Meanwhile, a Boobquake rally at the Vancouver Art Gallery was a study in attitudinal diversity as a few women decided to go over-the-topless while others complained that men were looking. The country is unlikely to achieve sexual consensus any time soon.

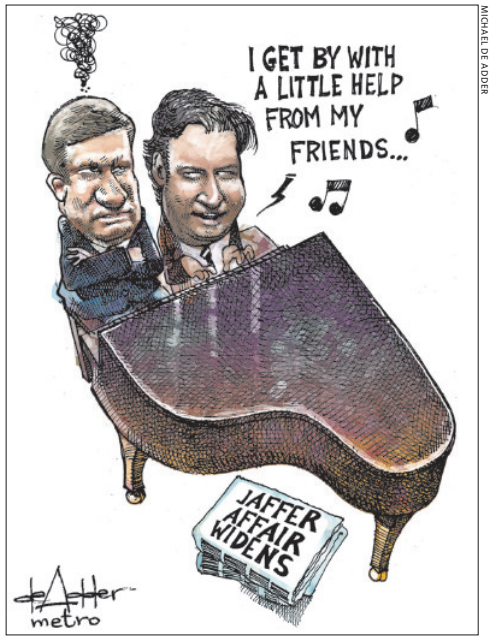
Homosexuality, abortion and birth control were all once illegal here, and our current federal government still seems squeamish. Immigration Minister Jason Kenney personally deleted references to homosexuality and same-sex marriage from the new citizenship guide, and International Co-operation Minister Bev Oda has provoked an outcry in some quarters by excluding abortion from maternal health programs in developing countries.

It can swing the other way, too, as some citizens find their government entirely too kinky. Witness the Ontario government's new sex education curriculum, hastily withdrawn for retooling last week after some church groups and parents complained the content was both too sexy and too educational.

Public libraries are constant sexual battlegrounds. The American Libraries Association has released its 2009 list of most complained about books, and the children's book And Tango Makes Three, based on the true story of a same-sex penguin couple in New York's Central Park Zoo, was one of the most controversial for the fourth year running.

Pierre Trudeau's declaration that the state has no place in the bedrooms of the nation is often quoted, but the separation of libido and state is not so easily achieved. Before voting for a candidate, it might be wise to consider your sexual compatibility should he or she come out on top.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

The lighter side of feminism revealed

FourthWave

People often say feminists lack any sense of humour and all they do is complain within their ivory towers. That isn't true and I offer up Boobquake and Ben Roethlisberger as examples.

It all started when Iranian cleric Hojatoleslam Kazem Sedighi reportedly warned, "Many women who do not dress modestly ... lead young men astray, corrupt their chastity and spread adultery in society, which increases earthquakes."

Many scoffed. One blogger, Jen McCreight of blaghag.com, was determined to scientifically disprove his theory. Thus, Boobquake was born: Women would "embrace the supposed supernatural power of their breasts" and seek to make the Earth tremble by wearing the lowest-cut shirts they owned.

Monday has come and gone — and guess what? No out-of-the-norm earthquake activity.

It's unfortunate that this tongue-in-cheek protest was reduced to a circus-like opportunity to ogle. Apparently, some Boobquake events drew more male photographers than busty participants, but I'm loathe to call it un-feminist just because of a few overactive sex drives and cellphone cameras.

Sometimes, you find allies in the most unlikely of places. Even if Boobquake protesters wouldn't call themselves feminists, plenty of people were angry enough to prove just how sexist Sedighi's statement was.

Moral truths are sometimes so obvious, they're plain as day. It was, too, for football fans following the saga of Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who has been suspended after another allegation of sexual assault.

I have negative interest in football, but what's not to love after reading this tweet from Vinnie Malhotra, executive producer for ESPN, from the floor of the NFL Draft: "Guy in a Roethlisberger jersey walking by at the NFL Draft. Crowd starts chanting 'No Means No!'"

I'm glad this common-sense mantra has percolated into the mainstream. Even superstar quarterbacks and their fans aren't immune to the fallout of allegedly perpetrating (or condoning) sexual assault, and football fans are going to let Roethlisberger know it.

Of course, with all the wacky things being said and done in Iran, it's no stretch to scoff at its leaders. Nor is it a difficult moral decision to shun an athlete twice accused of sexual assault. These are obvious things. I hope people can take their instinctual "Hey, that's not right" reactions toward Boobquake or Roethlisberger and carry that with them into the future.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

Worth mentioning

Want to talk? Your pet may be the best option

Husbands, if you end up in the doghouse, consider it a promotion.

One-third of pet-owning married women said their pets are better listeners than their husbands, according to an Associated Press-Petside.com poll released yesterday. Eighteen per cent of pet-owning married men said their pets are better listeners than their wives.

25

When pets become the therapists, the dogs have it. Twenty-five per cent of dog owners said their canines listened better than a spouse, while only 14 per cent of cat owners chose the feline.

Christina Holmdahl, 40, talks all the time to her cat, two dogs or three horses — about her husband, naturally.

"Whoever happens to be with me when I'm rambling," said Holmdahl, who is stationed with her husband at Fort Stewart in Georgia. "A lot of times, I'm just venting about work or complaining about the husband."

It would be a toss-up whether Bill Rothschild would take a problem to his wife of 19 years or the animal he considers a pet — a palm-sized crayfish named Cray Aiken. His daughter brought it home four years ago at the end of a second grade science project.

Rothschild, 44, of Granite Springs, N.Y., considers Cray a better listener than his wife, "absolutely. She doesn't listen worth anything."

The AP-Petside.com poll also found that most people believe their pets are stable and seldom struggle with depression. Just five per cent of all pet owners said they had taken an animal to a veterinarian or pet psychologist because it seemed down in the dumps. Even fewer said they'd ever given antidepressants to a pet.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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China loses medal after gymnast found to be underage

The International Olympic Committee has stripped China of its bronze medal from the women's team competition at the 2000 Sydney Games for using an underage gymnast. Dong Fangxiao's results from Sydney were wiped out in February after the International Gymnastics Federation determined she was only 14 at the 2000 Olympics. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Blog post costs Howard

Even on a day off, Dwight Howard can antagonize officials enough to draw a penalty. The Orlando Magic centre was fined $35,000 US by the NBA yesterday for criticizing officials on his blog. Howard was in chronic foul trouble and constantly complaining about officiating in the Magic's series sweep over Charlotte.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Habs stun Caps

(Montreal wins series 4-3)

Capitals 1 Canadiens 2

VS

Jaroslav Halak's continued mastery of the Washington Capitals has propelled the eighth-seeded Montreal Canadiens into the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Marc-Andre Bergeron and Dominic Moore scored for Montreal and Halak made 41 saves as the Canadiens shocked the Capitals 2-1 in Game 7 of their Eastern Conference quarter-final series last night.

The Canadiens became the first No. 8 seed to erase a 3-1 series deficit to knock off a top seed since the NHL switched to the current playoff format in 1994.

Brooks Laich scored late in the third to bring the Capitals to within a goal, but they couldn't convert on a power play over the final 1:44 of regulation to tie it up.

The league's best power play in the regular season went 1-for-33 in the series, a key reason why Capitals' off-season has started early.

The Capitals had a dominant regular season in winning the Presidents' Trophy with 121 points — 33 more than the Canadiens — and leading the league with 318 goals scored.

But that offence disappeared when it was needed most, largely because of Halak, who stopped 131 of 134 shots in winning the final three games of the series.

By leading his team back from the brink, Halak — the 271st overall choice in the 2003 entry draft — has written his name into the history books of the league's most successful franchise.

His Washington counterpart Semyon Varlamov wasn't nearly as busy in Game 7, but allowed two goals on 16 shots to lose his third straight game.

For the Capitals and the NHL's most exciting player Alexander Ovechkin, it was yet another playoff disappointment after bowing out in seven games to the eventual Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins in round two last year.

Those same Penguins will be waiting for the Canadiens in Pittsburgh to start their conference quarter-final series Friday night at Mellon Arena.

The game wasn't without controversy as Ovechkin appeared to tie the game at 24 seconds into the third period, but it was instantly waved off by referee Brad Watson because he deemed that Mike Knuble interfered with Halak.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NICK WASS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal Canadiens goalie Jaroslav Halak fights for the puck with Washington Capitals centre Brendan Morrison last night.

SCOREBOARD

NHL PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Montreal 2 Washington 1

PLAYOFF SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	5	9	14
Samuelsson, Vcr	**7**	**4**	**11**
Zetterberg, Det	6	5	11
Cammalleri, Mtl	5	5	10
Ovechkin, Wash	5	5	10
D.Sedin, Vcr	**4**	**6**	**10**
Backstrom, Wash	5	4	9
Datsyuk, Det	5	3	8
Pavelski, SJ	5	3	8
Malkin, Pgh	4	4	8
Cullen, Ott	3	5	8
Alfredsson, Ott	2	6	8
Richards, Pha	2	6	8
Toews, Chi	2	6	8
Clowe, SJ	1	7	8
H.Sedin, Vcr	1	7	8
Kane, Chi	4	3	7
Plekanec, Mtl	4	3	7
Doughty, LA	3	4	7
Filppula, Det	3	4	7
Sharp, Chi	3	4	7
Legwand, Nash	2	5	7
Franzen, Det	1	6	7

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Milwaukee 91 Atlanta 87

Denver 116 Utah 102

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Boston 2 Toronto 0

Detroit 11 Minnesota 6

L.A. Angels 4 Cleveland 3

N.Y. Yankees 8 Baltimore 3

Seattle 6 Kansas City 5

Tampa Bay 10 Oakland 3

Texas 6 Chicago White Sox 5

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Arizona 12 Colorado 11 (10 ings)

Cincinnati 6 Houston 4

Pittsburgh 6 Milwaukee 5 (14 ings)

N.Y. Mets 7 L.A. Dodgers 3

San Diego 6 Florida 4

Philadelphia 7 San Francisco 6 (11 ings)

St. Louis 6 Atlanta 0

Washington 3 Chicago Cubs 2

SOCCER

YESTERDAY'S NCC RESULTS

Toronto FC 2 Montreal Impact 0

Sports in brief

NFL Denver Broncos All-Pro left tackle Ryan Clady has undergone surgery to repair a torn left patellar tendon and will be out for several months, according to a published report.

TENNIS Rafael Nadal opened his bid for a fifth Rome Masters title with a quick 6-1, 6-3 win over Philipp Kohlschreiber yesterday. Having withdrawn from last week's Barcelona Open, Nadal appeared fresh and was able to dictate play with his usual combination of heavy topspin, few unforced errors and an array of baseline winners. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edler's grit, Ehrhoff's shine may be key

NHL One is a quiet Swede who roars when he steps on the ice. The other is a speedy German with a nose for the net.

Defencemen Alex Edler and Christian Ehrhoff are a couple of the players the Vancouver Canucks are counting on to make a difference against the Chicago Blackhawks in the NHL Western Conference semifinal. The best-of-seven series opens Saturday in Chicago (CBC, 2 p.m. PT).

Edler, a soft-spoken native of Ostersund, Sweden, was a bruiser in the Canucks' six-game victory against the Los Angeles Kings in the opening round of the playoffs. He bashed and banged, while leading the team with an average 24:50 of ice time a game.

Edler demonstrated his muscle with a crushing hit against Kings defenceman Drew Doughty in the opening game, then showed finesse when he used his speed to run down Michal Handzus on a breakaway in Game 6. He also picked up three points, including one goal, and was plus-7.

"I want to try to be physical when I can and get some hits in when the opportunities are there."
Alex Edler

"I want to try to be physical when I can and get some hits in when the opportunities are there," Edler said after the Canucks practised yesterday.

"I don't think I've ever been the most physical guy but it's something I am trying to get better at."

Game 2 will be played Monday in Chicago. The series then returns to Vancouver for games Wednesday and Friday.

One of the criticisms Vancouver faced in the fallout of losing last year's conference semifinal to Chicago was the team lacked a mobile defenceman who could handle the puck and score goals.

To fill that role the Canucks acquired Ehrhoff in a trade with the San Jose Sharks. The native of Moers, Germany, led all Canucks defenceman during the regular season with 14 goals, six on the power play, and 44 points. He finished the season a plus-36.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Changes made to MLB all-star game

The designated hitter will be used in the all-star game every year, and rosters will be expanded again to 34 under changes made by baseball's special committee for on-field matters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In Red Wings, Sharks meet their role model

When the San Jose Sharks hired former Detroit assistant Todd McLellan as their head coach two years ago, they were looking to duplicate some of the post-season success the Red Wings had enjoyed.

Now they get to find out if the imitation is as good as the original when the two teams meet in a Western Conference second-round series beginning tonight in San Jose.

McLellan brought over many of the philosophies he learned in Detroit under coach Mike Babcock, most notably a strong emphasis on puck possession.

"It's a copycat league," Sharks defenceman Douglas Murray said. "It always has been and probably always will be. When you have successful franchises like Detroit, teams are going to copy it. If it's successful why not try to use it?"

The one thing the Sharks haven't been able to emulate is Detroit's post-season success. The Sharks have not made it past the second round in their past four trips to the post-season, including a second-round loss to the Red Wings in 2007.

A playoff rematch has seemed inevitable because of how much talent both teams have. But early exits the past two seasons by San Jose have delayed that.

"They play a similar style to us," Detroit forward Henrik Zetterberg said. "We've been facing them a lot the last few years in the playoffs. It's usually a really good series. It's well-played hockey and it's exciting for the fans."

Despite being the two best teams in the NHL since the start of the 2005-06 season, the 2007 series is the only post-season meeting in that span.

The Red Wings were knocked out in the first round by Edmonton in 2006, the Sharks fell in the second round to Dallas in 2008 with the Red Wings waiting in the Western Conference finals and San Jose lost in the first round last season despite having the best record in the NHL.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Day off for Wings

- The Red Wings flew to the Bay Area Tuesday night and took yesterday off to try to be as fresh as possible for today's series opener.

Inter loses, but still advances to Champions final

SOCCER Inter Milan lost 1-0 at Barcelona yesterday but still reached its first Champions League final in 38 years by beating the defending champion 3-2 on aggregate.

The Italian champion braved continuous pressure from the slick-passing Catalans to line up a final against Bayern Munich May 22 in Madrid after winning the first leg 3-1.

Defender Gerard Pique scored in the 84th minute after Inter had frustrated Barcelona's attack.

Inter was reduced to 10 men from the 28th minute when Thiago Motta picked up a second yellow card after tangling with Sergio Busquets.

Inter held on in front of nearly 100,000 fans at the Camp Nou to give itself a chance at a third title — and first since 1965.

Moments after Barcelona substitute Bojan Krkic headed a clear chance wide, Pique received the ball inside the area before twisting past a defender and goalkeeper Julio Cesar and drilling his shot on the turn into an empty net.

Lionel Messi was given little room to roam, but the Argentina winger had a chance late after having delivered a perfect cross for Krkic in the 82nd minute.

Krkic found the back of the net in injury time but his strike was ruled out for a handball by Yaya Toure in the buildup.

Inter coach Jose Mourinho and his players sprinted onto the field to celebrate at the final whistle. Barcelona goalkeeper Victor Valdes tangled with Mourinho as he pointed up to the Inter section of fans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JASPER JUINEN/GETTY IMAGES

Gerard Pique of FC Barcelona scores his side's opening goal yesterday during the UEFA Champions League match between Barcelona and Inter Milan at the Camp Nou in Barcelona.

Czech Republic, Slovakia consider establishing common soccer league

Czech Republic and Slovak soccer officials are considering the setting up of a common league for the two countries that once formed one state — Czechoslovakia. The Czech federation said in a statement yesterday it will work together with its Slovak counterpart and UEFA on the project. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

Cleveland's LeBron James tries to get a shot off against Brad Miller of the Chicago Bulls in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference quarter-finals Tuesday.

Elbow room: LeBron's puzzling injury

LeBron James' ambidexterity makes him special — perhaps the most skilled basketball player on the planet.

James can drive, dribble and create with either hand. It's not widely known that James writes with his left. He never shoots free throws that way.

He did Tuesday.

Bothered by a puzzling injury that numbs his elbow, James curiously launched and missed a free throw left-handed in the closing seconds of Cleveland's 96-94 playoff win over Chicago, adding some unexpected late-night drama to the Cavaliers advancing to a second-round matchup against Boston.

James revealed afterward that the elbow has been troubling him for weeks. He underwent treatment yesterday and is expected to have further testing done before Saturday's Game 1.

X-rays and an MRI taken Monday showed no obvious structural damage, but clearly something is wrong with James' elbow, which he has covered recently with a padded, protective sleeve.

"I don't know, honestly, what's going on with it," James said after finishing one assist shy of a triple-double in Game 5.

"I've done tests to try and figure this thing out, but it almost feels like you hit your funny bone and it kind of numbs up for a little bit.

"It bothers me more because I don't actually know what it is. We'll figure it out. I've never had a problem with my elbow before."

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Maver ready to adopt a new home following CFL Canadian college draft

FOOTBALL Rob Maver can't wait for Sunday.

That's when months of uncertainty will end for the Guelph Gryphons kicker-punter, who will finally know where he will begin his pro football career when the CFL conducts its annual Canadian college draft (TSN, noon ET).

"I'm getting anxious," Maver said with a chuckle yesterday. "I'd be lying if I said otherwise.

"It's worse than waiting for Christmas when you're a five-year-old kid."

And not just for Maver, 24, of Brampton.

"I'm not nearly as anxious as my family," he said. "They're going crazy in a good way.

"My family is moving out to B.C. so I'm not going to have a home base in Toronto and Brampton anymore. Whatever team takes me, I'm going to call that place home so I can fully commit to that team and be there in the off-season working out with the guys so I can be fully committed to getting better. That's why I'm so eager to find out where I will be calling home."

"I'm getting anxious. I'd be lying if I said otherwise. ... It's worse than waiting for Christmas when you're a five-year-old kid." Brampton's Rob Maver on the CFL draft

Fortunately, the five-foot-11, 212-pound Maver shouldn't have to wait long to hear his name called. He's ranked sixth among the draft's top-15 prospects according to the CFL's scouting bureau and is the only kicker to crack the list.

He was the only kicker invited to the CFL's evaluation camp in March in Toronto, where Maver quashed the notion kickers aren't athletic. Maver not only participated fully in the drills but bench-pressed 225 pounds 11 times and completed the 40-yard dash in 4.97 seconds.

But that's no surprise to Kyle Walters, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers special-teams coach who was Maver's head coach at Guelph.

"Rob is a football player that happens to kick the ball," Walters said. "He works out hard, he trains hard, he loves football, he loves practice and helps out wherever he can.

"If he chose to play receiver or defensive back in high school or someone hadn't found out he could kick the ball so far he'd still be playing football at another position, I guarantee you that."

Maver's kicking skills are definitely in demand in the CFL. The Toronto Argonauts, Calgary Stampeders and Hamilton Tiger-Cats all need either a punter or kicker, creating no shortage of intrigue heading into the draft. At first glance, Toronto would appear to have the best shot at landing Maver considering it has three picks in the first 11 (Nos. one, eight and 11). Trouble is, the rebuilding Argos — who had a league-worst 3-15 record last year — have many needs to address in the draft and can't be guaranteed Maver would be available even at No. 8.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AOL shares take a tumble

AOL Inc.'s shares plunged yesterday as it reported lower-than-expected first-quarter revenue and it warned advertising sales would remain under pressure through the rest of the year. AOL, whose shares tumbled 13 per cent in late morning trading, is going through a sales reorganization. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 99.13¢	US $4.271	US $83.22	12,076.89
US 0.86¢	US 5.5¢	US 78¢	69.85

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

China pressed by U.S., Europe to drop demand for computer data

TECH Global technology suppliers face a looming Chinese deadline to reveal the inner workings of computer encryption and other security products in a move the United States and Europe say is protectionist.

Suppliers must comply with the rules that take effect Saturday or risk being shut out of the billions of dollars in purchases that the Chinese government makes of smart cards, secure routers, anti-spam software and other security products.

Encryption codes and other trade secrets would have to be disclosed to a government panel, and the foreign companies worry they might be leaked to Chinese rivals.

It is the latest in a string of disputes over complaints Beijing is using regulations to support its companies at the expense of foreign rivals.

It comes less than a month after China defused a separate conflict with the United States and Europe by scaling back a plan to favour Chinese technology in government procurement.

Washington and the European Union say no other nation imposes such a demand and want Beijing to scrap or at least postpone it.

Washington wants China to "follow global norms," said Nkenge L. Harmon, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Trade Representative, in an email. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sizeable market

- China features a very populous technology market, with more than 380 million Internet users and 590 million mobile phone accounts.

Lebanon **Wazzani Fortress**

HUSSEIN MALLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Khalil Abdullah, 56, a Lebanese businessman who recently returned to settle in Lebanon after 40 years spent working as a contractor in Africa, gestures as he stands on a hill above his resort, under construction near the Lebanon-Israel border. The Wazzani Fortress, as the $3-million project is called, is one of several resorts sprouting up along the tense border with Israel in what investors hope will be a new tourist attraction.

In **brief**

U.S. The Federal Reserve is sounding a more confident noting that the economy is strengthening and pledges to hold rates at record lows to make sure it gains even more traction. Wrapping up a two-day meeting yesterday, the Fed in a 9-1 decision retained its pledge to hold rates at historic lows for what it calls an extended period. Doing so will help energize the recovery. The Fed offers a more upbeat view of the economy, even as it notes that risks remain.

RAIL Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. says its first quarter net profits rose 74 per cent to $100 million as the company benefited from an improving economy as well as cost controls. Canada's No. 2 railway operator said yesterday its latest earnings rose from $57 million in the same period in 2009. Diluted per share earnings increased to 59 cents from 36 cents, topping analyst estimates.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Profits good as gold for Barrick

EARNINGS Barrick Gold Corp. says higher gold prices and increased production volumes helped it achieve record earnings in the first quarter.

The world's biggest gold miner reported yesterday that its net income more than doubled to $758 million US, or 76 cents per share, beating analyst expectations of 62.3 cents per share, according to estimates compiled by Thomson Reuters.

Barrick Gold President and CEO Aaron Regent

The results are a significant increase from profits of $371 million, or 42 cents per share, in the same period last year.

Sales also beat analyst expectations, rising to $2.6 billion from $1.8 billion in the year-ago quarter.

Chief executive Aaron Regent told investors at the company's annual meeting in Toronto that he believes gold will continue to serve as a safe haven as economic uncertainty prevails and affects the value of international currencies, stocks and bonds. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recession aftermath

Board says economy won't fully return until 2014

Canada's recession was short — and in some regions brutish — but the aftermath will be almost as challenging, three new separate reports on the economy suggest.

The reports from the country's budget watchdog, Statistics Canada and one of the leading economic think tanks, the Conference Board, are remarkably similar in detailing what Canada lost during the recession and the problems it faces in recovery.

Putting it in economic terms, Statistics Canada concludes the country's gross domestic product shrank 2.9 per cent last year, slightly more than its original estimate.

But not all regions experienced the recession in the same way. Newfoundland's economy fell back a massive 10.2 per cent, while two tiny economies, Prince Edward Island and the Yukon, did not contract at all.

Among the bigger provinces, Ontario's economy shrank 3.1 per cent and Quebec's by a relatively modest one per cent.

In dollar terms, the parliamentary budget office estimates that by 2014, when the economy returns to normal, Canada will have suffered a cumulative total of $225 billion in lost output.

By 2014, a different set of challenges will be facing Canadians and their governments, says the Conference Board's Pedro Antunes.

In a far-reaching outlook, Antunes says 2014 is when the real impact of the retiring baby boom generation will start being felt in Canada's labour market, economy and government budgets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jobless rate

- Canada's jobless rate stands at 8.2 per cent, about half a point below its recent high last summer. In the United States, unemployment has eased a bit in recent months, but remains at 9.7 per cent.

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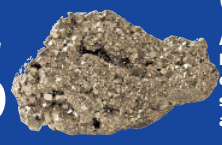
RateSupermarket.ca
Canada's rate comparison website

Metro Homes



Ooh, sparkly

A dazzling mineral mass, this Pyrite Cluster is perfect to perch on desktops or to tuck into bookshelves. Anthropologie, $48, anthropologie.com.

JENNIFER BILL/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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Fun at home with your refund

RefundFun

DENISE SURETTE
for Metro Canada

Spring is a great time to get started on sprucing up your home — spring-cleaning is done, summer entertaining is on its way and your tax refund cheque is in the mail.

No matter what your price range is, adding a few luxury items to your home can enhance the time you spend there — creating an atmosphere of fun, relaxation and style.

Nice three-piece
Refund
$130

This contemporary three-piece bistro set from Canadian Tire is a chic way to dress up any patio or balcony. It's great for early morning coffee in the summer or a romantic dinner at sunset.

"Two folding sling chairs and sturdy frame make storing easy during the winter months," says Radha Bharania, spokesperson for Canadian Tire.

Brand-new BBQ
Refund
$600

Adding a brand new barbecue to your patio is the perfect way to kick off summer for family and guests. The Broil King BBQ from Sears has 400 square inches of cooking surface and 235 square inches for its warming rack to make sure there's enough room for everyone's steak. It also has a stainless steel Flav-R-Wave cooking system, which instantly vapourizes drippings. A deluxe rotisserie kit is also included.

Nine-ball
Refund
$1000

If you have extra space in your rec-room, a pool table is a fun addition for get-togethers for you and the kids. A Mizerak Donovan Billiards Table from Sears comes with cues, balls, a triangle, chalk and a brush — everything to get you started on your game.

Hot tub luxury
Refund
$5000

For year-round luxury, a hot tub is the ultimate home addition. The Outlaw from Arctic Spa can fit five to seven people comfortably for a relaxing soak with 18 powerful jets. "With multi-level spacious seating for the very tall, very small and everyone in between, the Outlaw is perfect for families of all sizes," says Philip Edey, spokesperson for Arctic Spa. It also has a wall plug option, which enables the Outlaw to be plugged into any outlet to provide easy and economical installation.

Nice looks with **knick-knacks**

JENNIFER BILL
for Metro Canada

Every room needs a knick-knack or two.

These personal little decor touches can be whimsical and cute, creative and functional, comprising a collection or a treasured find, or perhaps a cultural relic carrying memories of time abroad.

Whether it be prized possessions lining grandma's mantel or a design-conscious decor element or showpiece in the living room, the power of the knick-knack is enormous, says Dana Jordan, owner of her namesake gift and decor shop in Toronto.

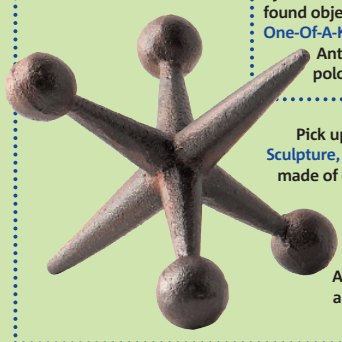
"They are the icing on the cake," says Jordan. "A room is a room is a room. However, decorative objects make the bland room come to life. They add instant character and personalize an area."

With designer tsotchkes — perhaps an oxymoron, as the word "tsotchke" can imply cheaply made or kitschy items, like the trinkets sold outside of tourist attractions — it's not just about the esthetics of these little objects d'art but also the emotion they elicit.

One's knick-knacks can say a lot about a person, Jordan says: "Their likes … what makes them smile, what makes them tick.

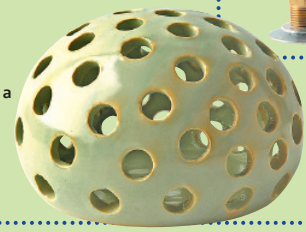
"Decorative objects run the gamut from pure objets d'art that simply please the eye to objects that marry beauty — which is always in the eye of the beholder — with function," she says.

Jordan notes many high-end brands are designing stunning practical gadgets, with the Alessi brand a prime example. Created by architects and industrial designers, Alessi's everyday objects are indeed outstanding enough to be housed in the Museum of Modern Art, she says.



Pick up the Cast Iron Jack Sculpture, a palm-sized piece made of cast iron and recall your days as the neighborhood 'round-the-world champ. Anthropologie, $10, anthropologie.com.

Artist Amy Flynn searched the world far and wide, gathering bits and pieces — a candy tin, tea infusers, hydraulic fittings — to create this found object automaton called the One-Of-A-Kind Fobot, Gwendolyn. Anthropologie, $518, anthropologie.com.



Washed ashore by early morning waves, this Porous Coral Sculpture, a handcrafted fragment of the reef, wears a salty seafoam glaze. Stoneware Handmade in U.S. Anthropologie, $78, anthropologie.com.

See what happens when 19th-century glass and delicate sea life come together. Each handmade piece in the Beach Find Bottle collection is entirely one-of-a-kind. Anthropologie, $328, anthropologie.com.

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A window on Port Coquitlam

Suite Talk

LINA TOYODA
for Metro Canada

The Shaughnessy on Lions Park, the first high-rise in Port Coquitlam, is slated for completion in the fall of 2012 by family-owned and operated developer Onni Group.

The tower will overlook the vast Lions Park, a riverside green space with recreational trails and playground, which is also an outdoor venue in the summer to a variety of special events, concerts and Cinema Under the Stars.

At 27 stories high, the Shaughnessy offers a sweeping view of the North Shore mountains, the Fraser River and the Lower Mainland through its floor-to-ceiling glass windows.

Radana Trubka, interior designer of the Shaughnessy says she wanted to create a space that feels inviting and comfortable when you walk in, and you want to sit in the sofas.

"It's fresh without being edgy and hard," Trubka said. "We wanted it to be based in clean and classic pieces so the undertone is very understated but with accents and punches that are stylish and crisp."

The 27-story Shaughnessy on Lions Park has floor-to-ceiling glass windows giving owners amazing views.

She says the chandelier is one of her favourite pieces, a glass drum shade which gives off a warm light.

"When the light is off it looks like chrome and when the light is on you can see through it. It has a sense of space without it being a solid mass," Trubka said. "It has these small glass balls that hang down and refract the light so it has a nice little sparkle. It's the first thing you see when you walk in."

The display suite is in fact the smallest floor plan and Trubka says it was important for her to show homebuyers that it's still an extremely livable space.

Minimally designed wall oven in the kitchen, stainless steel sink with a restaurant-style pull-down faucet and polished composite counter tops add a sleek finish.

"The floor plan is really well thought out. There's no wasted space," she said.

Suites come in two colour schemes; the mariner, a soft and muted palette of creams and light oak, and the lions, which features a look of warm, dark woods of grey teak tones.

"The actual suite finishes — the floor tile, wall tile, countertops and the cabinets — is fresh and contemporary but without really being trendy," said Trubka. "So something that will have relevance in the market for awhile."

Prices start at $244,900 for a one bedroom, and two bedrooms are from $301,900. There are also three penthouse suites available and four exclusive 5-storey town homes with rooftop terraces.

Visit onni.com for more information.

The lowdown

- The Shaughnessy on Lions Park by Onni Group
- First high-rise in Port Coquitlam, 27 stories high
- Natural surroundings of Lions Park
- Floor-to-ceiling glass windows with an expansive view
- Starting prices: from $244,900 for one-bedroom, $301,900 for two-bedroom
- Completion is Fall 2012

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Royal Bank and TD boost mortgage rates

MONEY Royal Bank of Canada kicked off another round of mortgage rate hikes this week, just days after the Bank of Canada's stern warning that higher interest rates are on the way.

RBC said it will increase interest rates by 15 basis points, or 0.15 of a percentage point, on mortgages with terms from six months to 10 years.

Hours later, TD Canada Trust announced increases ranging from 15 to 25 basis points on its six-month to 10-year mortgages.

It's the third time in one month that major Canadian banks have boosted rates for home owners.

Benjamin Tal, senior economist at CIBC World Markets, said the move does not come as a surprise.

"The market is getting more aggressive about the prospect of the Bank of Canada raising interest rates. Now it seems the market is expecting even more aggressive interest rates increases than it was last week," he said.

"The bond market is really a mirror to the future and this mirror is now telling us that the Bank of Canada is going to move. That's why bond rates go up."

The Bank of Canada left the key overnight rate untouched at 0.25 per cent at its rate-setting meeting last week.

But in its latest monetary report, the central bank declared that the nation's economy is growing more quickly than expected.

It also withdrew a commitment made last year, as the global economy fell into recession, to hold rates steady until the second half of 2010.

Central bank governor Mark Carney also said that the time for historic low interest rates has passed.

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Loyalty & Rewards

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Why joining a rewards program makes sense – and dollars

You may have noticed that there are more and more loyalty programs popping up—in supermarkets, at banks and retail stores, and even at your local cinema. You don't want a wallet full of plastic—so how do you choose which programs are best for you?

The first thing to look for is the way in which you can earn points. Is the product or service something you're going to invest in on a regular basis? If you go to the movies a lot, an entertainment rewards card might be worth looking into. Or if you're a department store denizen, see what programs they have to offer. And don't forget to check your financial institution to see if they offer rewards-based credit cards.

Next, take a look at bonus offerings, such as partner merchants or companies that offer special discounts if you're a cardholder. The more places you can use the card, the better. Rewards programs are expanding their partnerships all the time so, if one doesn't appeal to you at first, check back in a while to see if they've added new partner perks.

Finally, it's important to know how you can redeem the rewards you've earned. Many loyalty programs have tailored their rewards to they way in which you earned points: Store cards might offer credit towards future purchases at their location, entertainment cards may allow you to redeem points for movies and music, or credit card rewards could even let you pay down your line of credit. Some even offer rewards you may not expect!

Whatever programs you choose, don't be afraid to use them. Keep your cards handy and use them whenever you can—even online if possible. After all, the rewards are there for the taking—so get earning!

By Lori Dance

Joining the Club

Sears Club Rewards are as straightforward as it gets

When we looked into Sears Club, we thought we were seeing things—or rather, not seeing things.

One point for every dollar spent at participating stores? That just sounds too simple. Wait—two points for every dollar spent at Sears? That still makes sense. So we asked someone at Sears what the deal was.

"The Sears Club Points Program is one of the richest no-fee travel credit card rewards programs in Canada," says Peter Kalen, Vice President, Sears Financial and Sears Travel. "Our customers earn 2% back from the very first dollar they spend at Sears."

Is there anything else we need to know? "Our program is also very flexible," says Kalen. "Customers can redeem their points towards virtually anything at Sears or Sears Travel, whether it's Sears merchandise, a flight, hotel room or even a car rental. Plus customers can redeem as soon as they have $10 in points and for any multiple of $10. They can apply their savings towards the purchase of their choice, no matter the size!"

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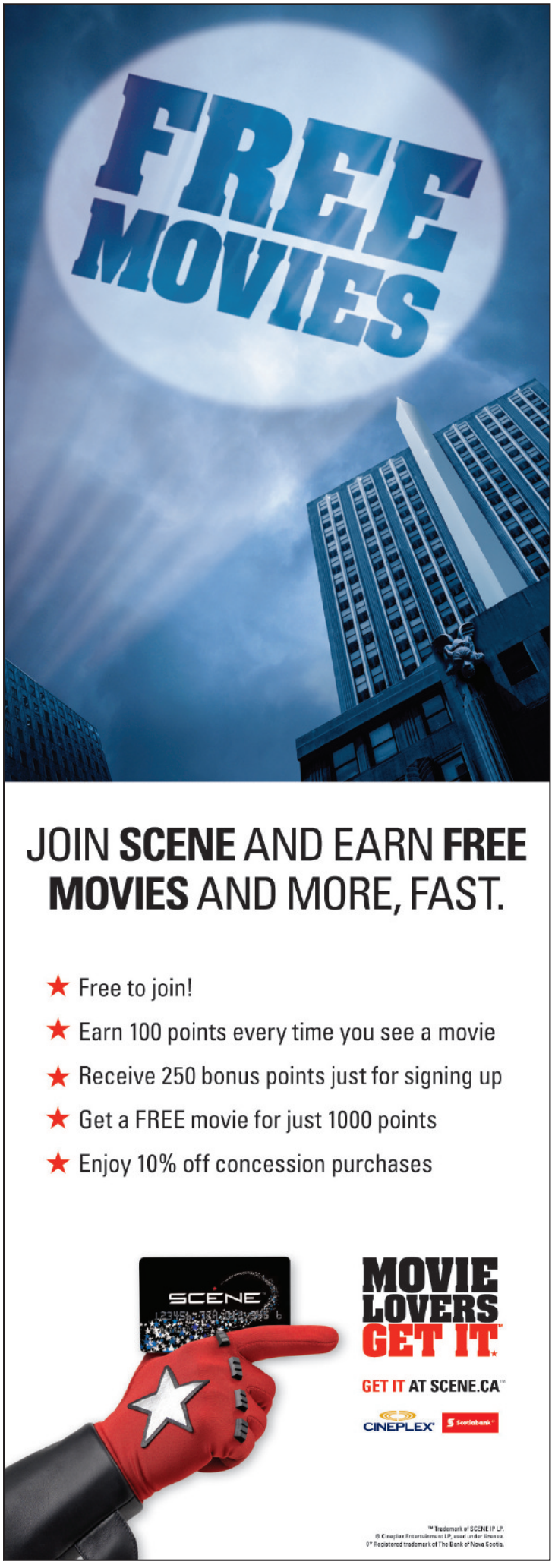

SCENE GETS TO THE POINT

A closer look at a fast-growing entertainment rewards program

We've all heard about programs that reward consumers for retail and financial transactions, but there appears to be a new kid on the block: Entertainment rewards.

We sat down with Shawn Bloom, General Manager of SCENE, to get an insight into what makes the SCENE program so attractive.

"SCENE is committed to delivering unique entertainment reward opportunities to its members," Shawn explains. "Unlike other loyalty and rewards programs where people have to save up for months, even years, to get great rewards, nearly 2.5 million SCENE members earn amazing rewards – fast, starting at just 1,000 points."

But how did they come up with the idea of rewarding customers for seeing movies? "After Cineplex acquired Famous Players from Viacom," Shawn continues, "Cineplex and Scotiabank began having conversations about a number of joint marketing opportunities. Eventually, Scotiabank suggested that there may be something bigger here that could work for both organizations."

The free-to-join SCENE program covers three card offerings: SCENE card (regular), SCENE ScotiaCard (debit), and SCENE Visa card (credit). SCENE debit and credit cards allow consumers to earn rewards not only on Cineplex movie tickets, but also on everyday purchases. Launched in 2007, the program has amassed nearly a whopping 2.5million members since its inception.

So what's on the horizon for SCENE members? "SCENE is constantly expanding to offer more places to earn points and bigger and better rewards for entertainment lovers," Shawn explains. "Although free movies and concession discounts are the foundation of the program, we know our members also love dining out, music, concerts and other entertainment activities—so we're focused on delivering more of the entertainment benefits they love."

Did you know?

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*Compared to the top 9 most popular no-fee travel credit cards based on how much you have to spend to earn $100 travel value and the lowest minimum redemption threshold. Excludes points earned as special acquisition bonuses. Based on the average of total purchases on Sears MasterCard made at Sears versus purchases made outside of Sears, for which points are awarded, to generate the comparison of the amount needed to spend to earn $100 travel value and to obtain the lowest minimum redemption threshold. Current as of March 2010. **On approved credit. 2 points per $1 spent at Sears. Point calculation is based on the standard earning of 1 base point per $1 spent on every transaction. †Excludes Sears Gift Cards and services including delivery, protection agreements and insurance. ††Applicable to selected new European vacation and cruise packages and tours. Applies to new bookings, made on the Sears MasterCard or Sears Card, of $2,000 or more (after applicable early booking bonuses and special offers) per booking, based on double occupancy, before taxes, fees and insurance. 20,000 bonus Sears Club Points (valued at $200) will be applied on the month of departure. Offers may not be combined. Some exceptions and restrictions apply. For full terms and conditions see a Sears Travel consultant. Unless otherwise stated, optional Finance programs do not qualify for Sears Club Points. ©2010 JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("Chase"). Chase and the octagon are registered trademarks of JPMorgan Chase & Co. used pursuant to licence. The registered trademark of "Sears" and "Sears Club" are used under licence by Chase. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated.

Fashionable and walk-able

Are you a practical fashionista? If so, then the newly launched online boutique Scarpasa (scarpasa.com) is for you. It offers stylish flats, sandals, boots and low and mid-heeled shoes from independent designers around the world. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

Jewelry by Trump

Even the rich and famous enjoy a bargain. Forty-year-old model Melania Trump (wife of Donald) is launching line of affordable jewelry on QVC. Each item in the Melania Timepieces & Jewelry collection costs less than $200. The line is broken up into three categories inspired by places Trump calls home: New York, Palm Beach and Paris. The New York items are created with a businesswoman in mind; Palm Beach is more sporty, and Paris is more flashy and glamorous. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Jumper to it

The one-piece is back and versatile as ever

JORDANA DIVON
for Metro Canada

The last time you wore one your hair was probably in pigtails, you had at least four missing teeth, and your family computer was the size of a small refrigerator.

Yes, we're talking jumpers. They're here, they're everywhere, and they're a more versatile alternative to the sundress. For tips on how to wear this one-piece staple and make sure you look sexy — not six — we turned to a pair of fashion experts.

CityLine style expert Lynn Spence happens to believe the jumper revival is a good thing. "Think of the things you can do with it," she says. "It's sort of a modified dress, but it doesn't feel like a dress so you don't feel so formal."

Spence suggests sticking to jumpers in darker, more neutral colours, like charcoal or black, and avoiding anything too feminine or ladylike. "First of all, wearing them with a delicate heel is a mistake," she says. "I would see them with a knee-length boot, or a chunky heel instead. (Also) you can't do a perfect little bag; instead try a messenger bag that goes from shoulder to hip, or something fun like a faux python skin bag."

Because jumpers are such a strong piece, accessories can often make — or break — your entire look. That's why Spence recommends going bigger and better when it comes to your jewelry. "You can do great strong silver and gold chain link accessories, big crosses, that kind of thing," she says. "And you can make it a bit pretty by pairing a chiffon blouse with a fabulous leather jacket."

As for choosing the right jumper for your body type, one size most certainly does not fit all. Spence advises sticking to an a-line cut if you're heavier on the bottom, and staying away from jumpers that skim the body unless you're narrow hipped.

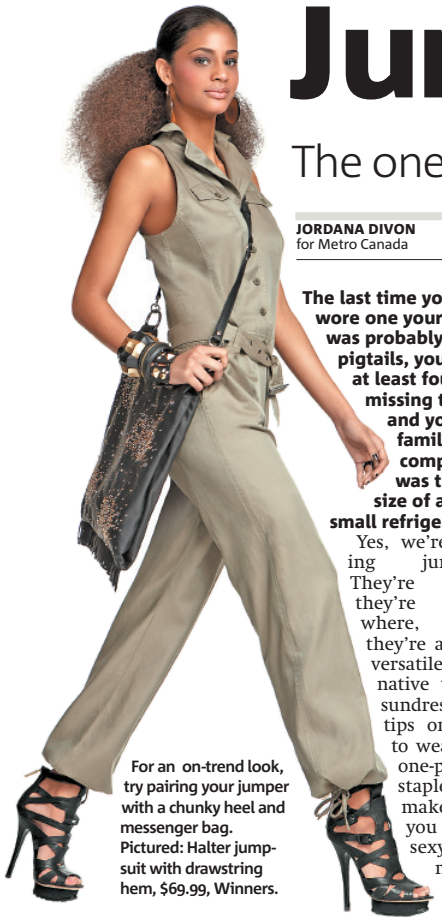
Janine Furtado, marketing and press co-ordinator at French Connection, says her favourite thing about jumpers is the ability to go from day to night with a few simple change ups. "It's an essential piece because you can do so much with it, especially when you have a classic black jumper," she says. "Take it from the beach with a great pink straw hat and simple flats, then swap it with a necklace and some heels and you can easily go from day to night."

Whatever your personal style preference, you should be able to slip into a slinky jumper and still look like you graduated from junior high. That's why Spence is happy to see so many young celebrities like actress Elisha Cuthbert and singer Rihanna decked out in an array of one-piece wonders. "I think the moment you see them photographed on a woman, or you see them on TV and you see how amazing they look, streamlining them will make any woman feel more comfortable with them."

Jumper rules

Lynn Spence's jumper cheat sheet:

- Avoid anything too delicate or feminine
- Try big, chunky jewelry
- Stick with dark, neutral colours
- For a chic, breezy summer look, pair a jumper with a simple white T-shirt
- To dress it up, try a chiffon blouse, or a three-quarter length sleeve under a leather jacket



For an on-trend look, try pairing your jumper with a chunky heel and messenger bag. Pictured: Halter jumpsuit with drawstring hem, $69.99, Winners.

Printed jumper, $158, left, and beaded jumper, $148, below. Both available at French Connection.

Denim one piece, $39.99, Winners

TOP 5 HAIRDRESSERS
RECOMMENDED BY METRO READERS

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VERVE HAIR
"Creative, trendy, talented, professional... Awesome stylists and a gorgeous salon."

BURKE & HAIR INC.
"Melanie at Burke & Hair Inc is great because she is professional, listens to her clients needs and performs wonders!"

OPUS SALON ESTHETICS
"She works with your needs and tells you the "realistic" truth as to what works for your personality and style."

TERESA WOODS
"She's the only person who I'll allow near my curly hair, because most stylists don't know how to cut it and I end up with a disaster."

NEXT WEEK'S TOP 5 – DOCTORS
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Conan dishes to 60 Minutes
Conan O'Brien will give his first post-Tonight Show interview on Sunday to 60 Minutes. As part of his $45 million exit deal with NBC, O'Brien was banned from giving any broadcast or print interviews until May 1. TVGUIDE.COM

Entertainment

Damon child
Matt Damon and his wife Luciana are set to welcome a fourth child to the family. Luciana, 34, is due in the fall. "Everybody's really happy," a rep for Damon, 39, says.
PEOPLE.COM

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Hole finds old Love

Nobody's Daughter is the first new album from Hole in 12 years.

Hole

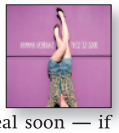
Album: Nobody's Daughter
Label: Universal
Rating: ●●●

IT'S HARD TO remember, but Courtney Love used to be a pretty good singer. She's more known for her unseemly antics these days, but in the mid-'90s she was one of grunge's more formidable songwriters. On her first record in 12 years, Kurt Cobain's widow amazingly taps into the Love of old. It's not as Nirvana-like anymore, but her throaty yell and druggy rock is mostly still in tact. It's hard not to pity Love — when she sings "I'm overwhelmed and undersexed … I'm too upset to show my face" you know the words really are coming from a haunted place in her soul.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Hannah Georgas

Album: This Is Good
Label: Hidden Pony
Rating: ●●●●½



BANG BANG YOUR Dead is one of those perfect little songs that'll be hitting your radio real soon — if it hasn't already. It's about nasty school girl gossip and betrayal. With a hip dance club beat and a saucy lyric that will appeal to all ages, it's hard to imagine it not becoming a major hit. And Hannah Georgas' debut LP contains three or four more original tracks that could easily follow, each one showing that you don't have to dumb down the music to be popular. Comparisons have already been made to Serena Ryder, Emily Haines and Feist, which just goes to show this Vancouver singer-songwriter's amazing versatility. This is not just "good," it's an excellent debut.

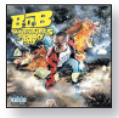
Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Album Reviews

music@metronews.ca

B.o.B.

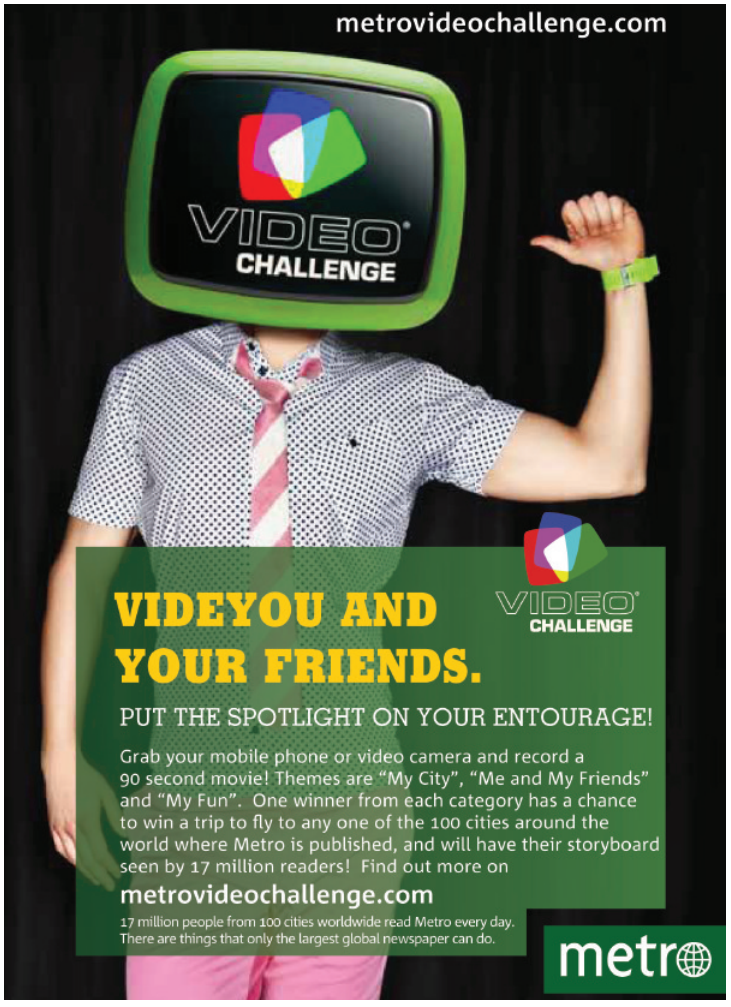
Album: The Adventures of Bobby Ray
Label: Grand Hustle/Atlantic
Rating: ●●●½

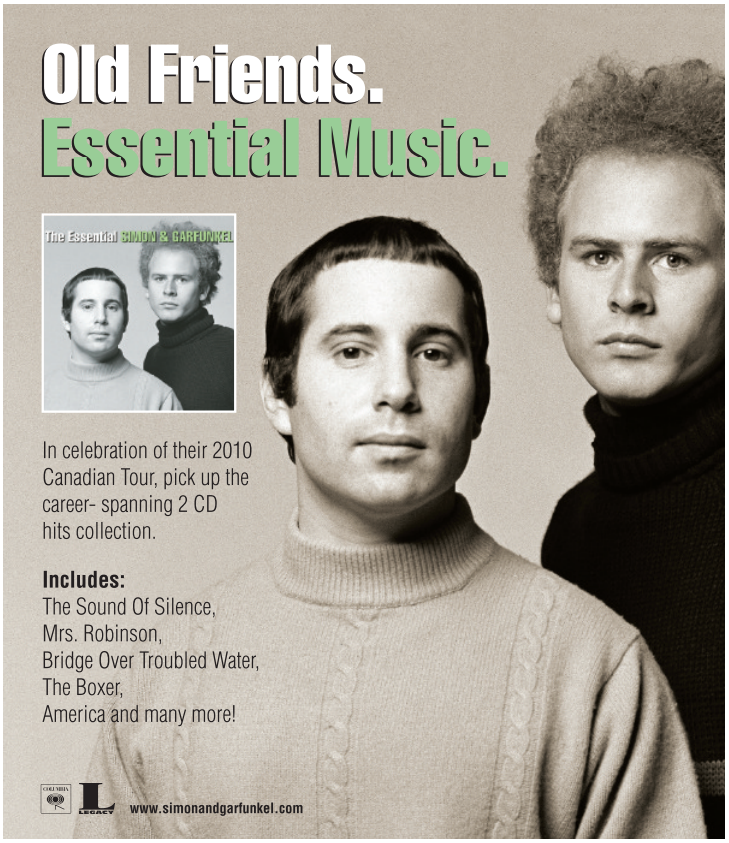


ON HIS DEBUT album, North Carolina's Bobby Ray Simmons (a.k.a. B.o.B.) uses a mixtape format that diversifies track after track. His steez is fresh and fun, rapping about a girl who pays her taxes over R&B on Nothin' On You, bringing together both Paramore's Hayley Williams and Eminem for Airplanes, Part II and sampling Vampire Weekend with Janelle Monae on The Kids. B.o.B. does occasionally falter, trying to get high with label boss T.I. on Bet I and looking foolish as a balladeer on Lovelier Than You. But like Kanye and Kid Cudi before him, his boredom with simply being a hip-hop artist is an asset that should give us many more adventures as enjoyable as this one.

Cam Lindsay/for Metro Canada

Read our reviews of Bullet For My Valentine, Two Door Cinema Club and As I Lay Dying at **metronews.ca/music**





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Jackie Earle Haley follows in the footsteps of Robert Englund in Nightmare on Elm Street.

Some kind of monster

Haley revives Freddy in Nightmare reboot

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Despite what his recent roles might suggest, Jackie Earle Haley is a very nice guy.

Since his career-reviving role as a child molester in Little Children, he's skulked the big screen as a misanthropic vigilante in Watchmen and mental patient in Shutter Island. Now he's taking over for Robert Englund as iconic horror villain Freddy Krueger in the new Nightmare on Elm Street reboot. But really, he's a nice guy.

"I think it's probably my physicality," Haley tells Metro as to why he keeps ending up in these sorts of roles.

"I also am drawn to characters that are kind of zingy. I don't have a lot interest to show up in stuff where the character's just kind of laying flat, just kind of there. I like stuff that's got kind of a real interesting arc."

While exploring Freddy Krueger's arc, Haley soon realized it wasn't like any other character he'd played.

"In my research, I started to go down this road of really looking at and getting serious about it," he says. That research included studying an encyclopedia of serial killers given to him by director Samuel Bayer.

"But then I realized, I'm playing a boogie man! I'm playing a mythical boogie man, a monster," Haley recalls. "I need to embrace that monster and embrace it inside this genre. It was incredibly freeing.

"The thing about him is he's not real. It's fiction," he says. "I embraced the fact that this guy is that character in a campfire story. For some reason we like to sit around in the dark around the campfire when you're out in the woods and stuff and hold the flashlight up to your face and giggle while we try to scare each other. That's what makes this genre fun."

Nightmare On Elm Street opens tomorrow

Less fun was the idea of taking over for Englund, who played Krueger in eight films and one television series.

"He is synonymous with Freddy. You mention the word, we conjure that up," Haley says.

"For me it's not a competition. You can't compete with Robert. You just do your best and accept being second-place Freddy."

Of course, taking on the role also included more practical challenges, like the six-hour sessions in the makeup chair to capture Freddy's frightening countenance. "

You just kind of sit there. There's not a lot to do," Haley says of the morning ritual. "You can't move much, not at all. I can't read because I don't have glasses. If I had really good eyesight, I could probably. It's a lot of just sitting there zoning, learning how to meditate."

Bullock adopting, files for divorce

INTERVIEW Sandra Bullock has filed for divorce from her husband, Jesse James, and is adopting a baby boy as a single parent.

"Yes, I have filed for divorce," the 45-year-old Oscar-winning actress said in an interview with People magazine, posted Wednesday on its website. "I'm sad and I am scared."

Bullock and James, 41, began the adoption process four years ago, the People article said, and brought 3 1/2-month-old Louis Bardo Bullock home in January but decided to keep the news to themselves until after the Academy Awards.

Bullock

In the interview, Bullock said she is savouring her new maternal status.

"You wake up, you feed, you burp, you play, you do laundry," she said. "I'm still in that stage where I'm just amazed with him and at life."

The baby, called Louie, is named after jazz great Louis Armstrong, she said.

James and Bullock separated in March after five years of marriage, following reports that James had been unfaithful.

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A tasty way to celebrate Asian Heritage Month
In honour of Asian Heritage Month in May, Wild Rice has created a family-style sharing menu of both traditional and innovative dishes. Visit wildricevancouver.com for details. ANYA LEVYKH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Urban Foodie

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Red Card steps up its game

ANYA LEVYKH
anya.levykh@gmail.com

Red Card Sports Bar
900 Seymour St.
604-689-4460
redcardsportsbar.ca

Rating: ●●●½
Dinner & drinks for two: $65
Signature Dish: Margherita pizza
Signature Drink: R&B Raven Cream Ale

ANYA LEVYKH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER
Tortelloni stuffed with ricotta, padano and sage

Sports bars aren't normally on my radar for gastronomically-interesting fare, but I reasoned that any place that opens up in the Moda Hotel and has Uva Wine Bar and Cibo Trattoria as its neighbours, must be bringing something a little extra to the table.

As with most bars, beer plays a starring role on the drinks line-up. More than 15 drafts, plus eight Canadian, a dozen U.S., and over two dozen international craft selections round out the offerings.

There are also some very reasonable reds and whites available by the glass, as well as a great selection of bottles.

On my first visit, I found the name of this glossy new pad a little ironic, because that was just what I wanted to do — give it a red card and remove it from the playing field — permanently.

Unfortunately, despite the much-touted Marana Forni pizza oven — an expensive, authentic red brick Italian import — my four-cheese pizza ($14) arrived overcooked and oversalted, with unbalanced flavours.

A starter of deep-fried mozzarella balls ($7) was more palatable, although the marinara sauce tasted canned.

Surprisingly, the one item I really enjoyed on that first visit was the dessert, a pistachio and ricotta-stuffed cannoli ($6) that was both sweet and tart, with excellent pastry.

My second visit saw me trying the arancini ($8), perfectly deep-fried risotto balls that were moist inside and stuffed with mozza, prosciutto, and peas. The house burger ($15) was another winner, served with rosemary-crusted fries.

It was the third visit, however, that really impressed. Margherita pizza ($14) — a combination of fresh mozza, tomato sauce, and basil — is so simple that it's equally simple to screw up. Red Card's version, however, was perfect.

A simple plate of house-made tortelloni ($16) was also a good buy, stuffed with padano, ricotta and sage, and lightly tossed with chopped parsley and an excellent soffritto (diced and pan-fried carrots, onion and celery).

Despite its rocky start, Red Card now seems to have its head in the game.

On the web

- Chew more on Anya's blog at metronews.ca/vancouver/blog/136310.
- Read the full article online at metronews.ca/vancouver/columnist/40411.

New releases

The Grampians regions of Western Victoria is situated between two enormous mountain ranges, making for a uniquely elevated, yet cool climate — ideal for growing Shiraz. Mount Langi Ghiran uses 80 to 100-year-old vines to produce their Billi Billi 2005 Shiraz. A mature tannic structure is balanced by the fruit-forward palate, and lush mouthfeel. $16.99 at Everything Wine and BCLS.

Global Peasant blog online

- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.
- Check out metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe of Minted Green Pea Mash and Baked Halibut.

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VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 4/29/10	251	308	3 CBC	CBC News	To Be Announced					CBC News: The National		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	9 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	250	321	5 CTV	The Vampire Diaries (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigat'n		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		The Mentalist "Red All Over"		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	Stargate SG-1 "Prodigy"		Supernatural (N) (CC)		P3	Diya (CC)	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		The Office (N)	'Til Death	90210 "Multiple Choices" (N)		News
	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (N) (CC)	Access H.	FlashForward (N) (CC)		Fringe "Brown Betty" (N) (PA)		(:01) Private Practice "War"		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	Accidentally	30 Rock (N)	The Marriage Ref (N) (CC)		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		CSI: Crime Scene Investigat'n		The Mentalist "Red All Over"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock (N)	The Marriage Ref (N) (CC)		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Supernanny (CC)		Love It or List It		Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design	House-Sell	Love It-List It
	288	380	24 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	FlashForward (N) (CC)		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		(:01) Private Practice "War"		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	28 KVOS	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Mona Lisa Smile ★★ (2003) Julia Roberts, Kirsten Dunst.				Seinfeld	King	Cold Case
	291	383	27 PBS	Field Guide	Steves Europe	Doc Martin (CC)		Poirot "Wasps' Nest" (CC)		Between the Lines (CC)		Globe Trekker
	290	382	23 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (N) (PA) (CC)		Fringe "Brown Betty" (N) (PA)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Casebook-Sherlock Holmes		Red Green	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Old House	Michigan
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Dean Martin	Street Court	Cold Case
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	66 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	67 WPX	PIX News at Ten (N) (CC)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	29 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Doc Zone: The Climb (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) (CC)				Larry King Live (CC)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Hockey	Week/B'ball	Canucks TV	The Grid	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off the Record	Mayweather	Snowboarding	World Series of Poker Europe.		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Destination Truth (CC)		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	Bullrun (N)		Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame		Bullrun		Bullrun
	416	409	144 GLF	(6:00) Soccer		Foot Brazil	Toronto-Today	Gol TV News	Bundesliga	Toronto FC	Toronto-Today	Foot Brazil
family	552	543	25 YTV	That's-Weird	Family Biz	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
	555	545	60 TEL	Spliced (N)	Total Drama	Stoked (N)	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life		
	557	541	61 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled! (N)	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	63 TRE	Little Bear	Toopy	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin (CC)	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Frontiers of Construction		Going to More Extremes		Broadway: Musical		The Impassioned Eye		Beautiful
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Unstable	Unstable	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba "As Is"	According-Jim
	570	580	24 MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	UR11		Muchmusic Countdown (CC)			disBAND	MuchMeg
	600	564	29 H&G	House	House	Holmes Inspection (CC)		House-Bryan	Real Renos	Holmes on Homes (CC)		House
	615	520	31 A&E	Fugitive Chronicles "Nichols"		Fugitive Chronicles (CC)		(:01) The First 48 (CC)		(:01) The First 48 (CC)		Fugitive
	628	584	32 SPKE	(6:05) TNA Wrestling (CC)		UFC 113 Countdown: Machida		MANswers	MANswers	UFC 113 Countdown: Machida		Disorderly
	521	560	34 TLC	LA Ink "Time Is Up" (N)		LA Ink Liz gets caught in a lie.		LA Ink "Time Is Up" (CC)		LA Ink (CC)		LA Ink (CC)
	616	522	36 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Blind Trust (2007) Jessica Capshaw, Chad Willett. (CC)				NCIS "Toxic" (CC)		NCIS (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	Love, Sex & Eating the Bones		Law & Order "Stalker" (CC)		Without a Trace (CC)		Love, Sex & Eating the Bones ★★ (2003)		
	601	562	41 SLC	Chop Shop	Chop Shop	ET Canada	What	Real Housewives, Orange		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	MythBusters (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Superswarm				MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT "Thin Ice"		Ax Men "Market Meltdown"		Ancient Discoveries (CC)		Re-Inventors
	627	528	45 SPC	Lost "Ab Aeterno" (CC)		InnerSpace	Stargate SG-1	"Fallout" (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.	Star Trek: Voyager (CC)	
	294	650	57 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Lopez Tonight		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Reality	Whatever	Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'70s Show	King	Comeback
	603	561	62 FN	Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Bitchin	Brian Boitano	Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Ace of Cakes
	-	-	53 AMC	(5:00) The Godfather ★★★★ (1972) Marlon Brando. (CC)				Shallow Hal ★★ (2001) Gwyneth Paltrow, Jack Black, Jason Alexander. (CC)				
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Martin	Sarah	Daily Show
	320	621	30 CEN	(6:00) Passchendaele (2008)		Fakers (2010, Drama) Greyston Holt. (CC)			(:45) Orphan ★★ (2009) Vera Farmiga, Peter Sarsgaard. (CC)			
	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills	The City	After	MTV Live	The Real World "Sydney"		The Hills	The City	After
	261	394	102 V	(6:00) The Accidental Tourist ★★★ (1988)			Recreat. Eden	Love Me Tender ★★ (1956) Elvis Presley, Richard Egan. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	105 MUL	My Queen	Immortal	Vancouver	Shaktimaan	Dheeyan Ghar	Sadabahar	Connections	Desi Rhythms	Patrol World

critics' corner

Community
The study group is divided after Pierce (Chevy Chase) crosses a line with Shirley (Yvette Nicole Brown), forcing the students to choose between the two. Britta and Jeff (Gillian Jacobs, Joel McHale) face a group of young bullies and their mother (guest star Lisa Rinna). Troy and Abed (Donald Glover, Danny Pudi) compile a "bucket list" of things they need to accomplish before they graduate in the new episode "The Art of Disclosure." 8 PM on NBC

A Guy Thing
Its title notwithstanding, this irritating 2003 comedy is actually a very bad thing on nearly every count, a grating and often tasteless waste of the considerable personal charm of stars Jason Lee, Julia Stiles and Selma Blair. For the record, the miscast Lee stars as a guy who not very credibly falls in love with the wild-child cousin (Stiles) of his uptight fiancee (Blair). Nothing good transpires as a result. 5 PM on TBS

Rivers goes for the (latex) jugular

Joan Rivers — who's famously had plastic surgery — supports Heidi Montag, who got 10 plastic surgery operations in a day. "I think she should have started sooner," she told usmagazine.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Brangelina wedding rumours abound

THE TABLOIDS FIGURE IF THEY KEEP WRITING ABOUT IT, THEY CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN. JUST LIKE IN *THE SECRET* Angelina Jolie reportedly asked Brad Pitt to marry her, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress — who earlier this month was reported to be preparing to tie the knot with her long-term partner — is said to have decided it was time to make Brad her husband during the couple's stay in Venice, where Angelina was shooting new movie The Tourist.

A source said: "Angelina has fallen in love with Brad all over again — and she wants to make it official by getting married. Once she made up her mind the only thing left to do was tell Brad."

Rumours are rife the ceremony will take place at Pitt's close friend George Clooney's Italian villa on Lake Como and the pair's oldest four children, Maddox, eight, Pax, six, Zahara, five, and three-year-old Shiloh, will have big roles on the special day.

Pitt's parents, Bill and Jane, are also said to be delighted at the news of the nuptials and are looking forward to seeing their son wed for the second time. His first wife was Jennifer Aniston.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Are Rihanna and galpal more than just friends?

WOW, SHE'S *SO* EDGY Speculation is swirling that Rihanna is a lot closer to her assistant, Melissa Forde, than previously thought. The pair have been getting affectionate in public, showing up to an after-party in Frankfurt hand-in-hand, according to Bossip. And Rihanna and Forde reportedly have matching tattoos. Rihanna has previously said in an interview, "All humans are born with the ability to be attracted to both sexes. I mean, I could see myself in a relationship with a girl."

METRO WORLD NEWS

CelebTweets

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

Today, **NICK CANNON** adorably thinks the Lohans want privacy, **SAMANTHA RONSON** is tired, and **STEPHEN FRY** needs a trim.

@NickCannon We have to remember that at the end of the day this is a family matter that the Lohans have to deal with. All we can do is pray for them

@samantharonson All i've been thinking about since I woke up is how long til i can go back to sleep.

@stephenfry Oh dear. My hair is simply too long. I look like James May's twin sister.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lohan's dad has 'poisoned' her career, says insider

DADDY DEAREST Lindsay Lohan's dad posted on Twitter that his famous daughter has HIV, though he quickly insisted his account was hacked. But industry insiders say it's just another example of how he is poisoning Lindsay's once-promising career.

"Michael Lohan has put the last nail into Lindsay's career. It's amazing to see a father destroy the last remains of his daughter's career," a casting director tells Popeater. "Lindsay is a great actress who has problems, but make no mistake, her biggest problem right now is her dad."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Courtney Love: I slept with pop star's hubby

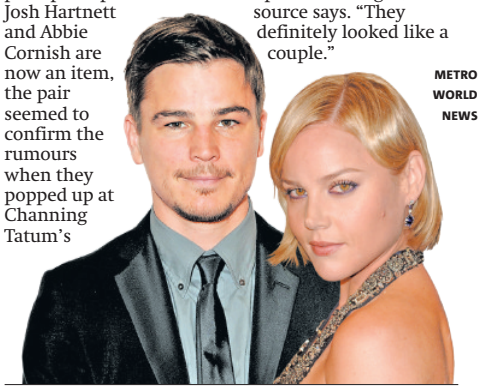
EVEN MICHAEL LOHAN IS LIKE, 'WOW, I COULD NEVER SAY ANYTHING TO DAMAGE LINDSAY'S CAREER AS MUCH AS THAT' Courtney Love claims she had an eight-month affair with Gavin Rossdale and that his wife, Gwen Stefani, knows about it. "He was such an Adonis in his day! He got good in bed," Love told Howard Stern of her time with the former Bush front-man. "Something happened. Maybe Gwen taught him, for all I know." When Stern asked if this was when Rossdale and Stefani were already together, Love said, "Yes. She does know."

METRO WORLD NEWS

New Hollywood couple pretends to play coy

WHAT? THEY'RE ACTORS. IT'S WHAT THEY DO After sightings last week prompted speculation Josh Hartnett and Abbie Cornish are now an item, the pair seemed to confirm the rumours when they popped up at Channing Tatum's 30th birthday party in New York City, according to Page Six. "They turned up after midnight," a source says. "They definitely looked like a couple."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Clarkson blasts web pirates

AHOY THERE, MATEY. AT LEAST *SOMEONE'S* ACTUALLY INTERESTED IN YOUR MUSIC Trifle with unreleased Kelly Clarkson material at your own risk, EW.com reports. As noted by Idolator, the online leak of a track known as Cleopatra on Tuesday inspired not one but two furious Twitter messages from the star.

First: "Cleopatra is NOT a song on my next record! It was written for another artist! I have no idea how it leaked, it's a rough demo, unfinished!"

Then, minutes later, Clarkson added: "I'm so tired of disrespecting, lying, sneaky little trolls that pretend to be human."

Funny thing is, adds EW.com, is that Cleopatra is not bad at all. It's clear enough that it's an unfinished demo, and Idolator is quite right that it leans more toward hip-hop/dance-pop than anything Clarkson has done in years.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

'Dancing' co-star apologizes for insulting Gosselin

WHAT HE REALLY MEANT TO SAY WAS THAT SHE NEEDS A *PSYCHIATRIST* Dancing With the Stars' Louis van Amstel is ready to make amends with Kate Gosselin after saying she "needs a psychologist."

"I want to apologize to Kate. I really do. She grew on all of us so much," van Amstel told usmagazine.com. "What I was meaning to say is that dance is like therapy," he explained. "It's such a great way to use movement without having to talk about it — just move and go to a certain place. That's what I said and that was what Kate needed."

Van Amstel, 37, says "it was hard" for Gosselin, 35, to hear criticism from the judges. Bruno Tonioli slammed her for moving on the dance floor like a "shopping cart."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No wedding date set for Cowell

NOW WE'LL HAVE TO CONTINUE WAITING TO SEE HOW MANY IDOL CONTESTANTS WILL BE SINGING AT HIS RECEPTION Despite earlier reports that Simon Cowell and fiancée Mezhgan Hussainy would be tying the knot by September, the American Idol judge say there's no date set.

"Wedding, what wedding? In spite of various people claiming to be making arrangements for our wedding, no such plans exist," Cowell tells Reveal magazine. "Nothing is concrete and I'm not making any announcement yet. Everything is fine though, and will be sorted soon."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Co-star dishes dirt on Katie's kid

WELL, SHE EATS, SLEEPS, POOPS, CRIES, AND LIKES SHINY OBJECTS What's Suri Cruise really like? Channing Tatum found out when he worked with Suri's mom Katie Holmes earlier this month on the crime thriller Son of No One, and the famous four year-old paid a one-day visit to the film's NYC set, usmagazine.com reports.

"(She's) a happy, playful little girl," Tatum told UsMagazine.com. The fashionable celeb tot has been seen all over the Big Apple in recent months (frolicking in the snow, wearing bunny ears, sipping from a bottle).

On set, Suri and her mom "definitely" seemed close, Tatum added. And Tatum, who's married to actress Jenna Dewan, raved about his 31-year-old costar Holmes, "She's already wrapped on the film," he explained. "I wanted to do more stuff with her. She really brings it in the movie — just you watch."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Saturday Cloudy 13° / 9°
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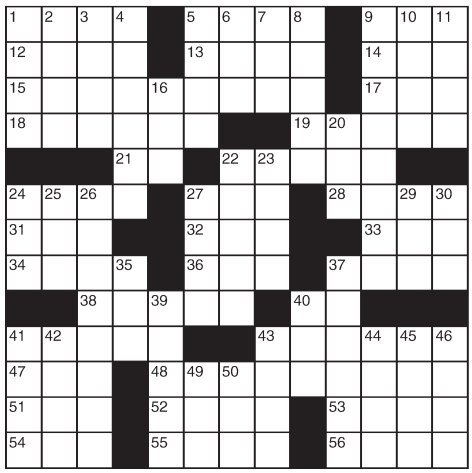
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Amorphous mass
5 Soothing agent
9 Hoover, for one
12 Top-rated
13 Shaving cream additive
14 Supplement, with "out"
15 Romania's capital
17 Evergreen type
18 Trusty horses
19 Unaccompanied
21 "And I should care ... why?"
22 Shade
24 Skirt feature
27 Coach Parseghian
28 Took off
31 Barbie's companion
32 Lustrous black
33 Vast expanse
34 Tittle
36 Fool
37 Charon's water
38 Put forth
40 "I see"
41 Temptress
43 Obliterates
47 Praise in verse
48 Most gentle
51 "— Miserables"
52 "Holy mackerel!"
53 Stage presentation
54 Chow down
55 Actress Schneider
56 Turn on a pivot

DOWN

1 Talks and talks
2 Lummox
3 Never again?
4 Command
5 Saloons
6 Hearty quaff
7 — Angeles
8 Gold, silver or bronze
9 Kelley who played McCoy on "Star Trek"
10 Related
11 Unadorned
16 Commotion
20 Chatroom chortling
22 Top of a wave
23 Feedbag fill
24 Schuss
25 Writer Buscaglia
26 Bankbook bonus
27 Not shut tight
29 Tina of "30 Rock"
30 Levy
35 Pink-slip
37 Musical notes
39 Go in
40 Raw rock
41 Dover fish
42 Concept
43 Vortex
44 Vend
45 Birthright barterer
46 Eyelid woe
49 Swelled head
50 Historic war zone, for short

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			2	3			7	
			5	9	7		6	
5					6	3		
6						8		4
			8		5			
1		4						9
		9	4					7
	6		9	5	1			
	1			7	3			

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

9	5	4	6	7	1	2	8	3
3	8	7	5	9	2	1	6	4
1	2	6	8	4	3	7	5	9
7	6	1	2	3	9	5	4	8
2	3	8	1	5	4	6	9	7
5	4	9	7	6	8	3	1	2
6	7	3	4	8	5	9	2	1
8	9	2	3	1	6	4	7	5
4	1	5	9	2	7	8	3	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Finger-lickin' Ribs

INGREDIENTS:

1 to 1.5 kg pork loin back ribs or spareribs, cut into 2-rib portions
1 medium-size yellow onion, chopped
1/4 cup orange juice
1/2 cup chili sauce
1 tbsp molasses
1 tsp grated orange rind
1/2 tsp dry mustard
1/4 tsp ground cloves
1/8 tsp ground cayenne pepper

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Place pork ribs, bone side down, in large shallow baking pan. Bake for 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 hours or until tender. Drain off fat.

2. Meanwhile, in small pot, combine onion and orange juice.

3. Cook over moderate heat 5 minutes or until onion is tender.

4. Stir in chili sauce, molasses, orange rind, mustard, cloves, and cayenne pepper. Bring to boil.

5. Set aside half of chili sauce mixture. Brush ribs with some of remaining chili sauce mixture.

6. Bake for 15 minutes more, brushing once or twice with chili sauce mixture.

7. Serve ribs with reserved chili sauce mixture.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Imagine that you are a completely different person. That's a lot of imaging for one day but what you learn about life will be worth the effort.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
The idea of changing your routines may give you nightmares but today's cosmic picture urges you to look at arranging your affairs differently.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Act as if what you imagine today will be your reality tomorrow. Don't ask yourself what is possible, ask yourself what it is you really want to do.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
This will be an exciting day for you, the kind of day when you discover new things about the world and the people you share it with.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Where do you really belong? What do you most want to be doing? These are the kind of questions you will be asking today.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
"Passion" and "Virgo" are not words that always go easily together but something or someone will inspire you today.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Venus in your fellow Air sign of Gemini makes this one of the best times of the year for you, but other aspects warn that your ego is fragile.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You feel good about yourself at the moment. You always feel good when you're in love.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You may be in tune with the spirit of the times but not everyone wants to move ahead a breakneck speed. Accept that fact today.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
What inspires you? Whatever it is that is what you should be focusing on now, even if it means neglecting other things for a while.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
It may seem as if you are moving in one direction and loved ones are moving in the opposite direction, but looks can be deceptive.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You can easily persuade people to give you the emotional and financial support you need, but you will gain more in the long-term if you do it for yourself.

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